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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, 2015

**Celebrating the Welsh language**

See pages 20-21

**IN BUSINESS UPDATE FEATURE**

Pages 22-23

**Fine dining for Valentine's Day**

Pages 16-17.

**SIX NATIONS: FIRST UP, ENGLAND!**

BACK PAGE COMMENT - PAGE 44

## Golf club champion claimed he could walk 50 metres - says prosecution

A GOLFER claimed more than £26,000 in state benefits, after indicating that he could walk only 50 metres in 10-to-15 minutes because of a medical condition, according to prosecution allegations.

Cardiff Crown Court heard prosecutor Stuart McLeese say that investigators from the Department of Work and Pensions, carried out a surveillance operation on 56-year-old Alan Bannister at St Andrew's

Report by AJ SICLUNA

Major Golf Club, Barry, where he was seen to play a 5,400-metre course in four-and-a-half hours.

This, said prosecutor Stuart McLeese was at odds with what he had told the authorities.

Bannister, of Barry Road, Barry, had won the club championship in 2006 and other tournaments, and with a handicap of 6 to 7, was described as "a pretty good golfer".

Bannister pleaded not guilty to failing to disclose information and

obtaining money transfers of £26,090 by deception between October 2004 and July 2012.

Mr McLeese alleged he made dishonest representations to obtain a disability living allowance concerning the extent of his disability and failed to notify the department of these things to access benefits.

He suffered, said Mr McLeese, from ankylosing spondylitis and this was not in dispute, but he failed to record the full effects of this when filling in claim forms.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

## LANE CLEAN-UP IN TOWN



## Jamie's legacy goes on and on



ABOVE: Jamie Adamson.

THE Jam Fund was started in memory of Jamie Adamson, who died of cancer at the age of just five in 2004.

The fund has raised more than £400,000 and helped numerous youngsters suffering from ill health, as well as providing support for their families.

Jamie was born on Christmas Day, 1998, and to celebrate his life, last Christmas his father

Paul released 16 red balloons with a special note attached.

Paul said: "I spoke to a lady who had also lost a child and she said she wrote a note to her son, so I adapted that and added the details of the charity and put the notes on the balloons."

The idea was to send out a message that the Jam Fund was there to help children in need.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

THE Safer Vale Partnership has undertaken a clean-up at a lane behind Merthyr Street and Holton Road, Barry.

Along with Vale of Glamorgan Youth Service, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, the Youth Offending Service and Keep Wales Tidy, it joined forces with Subway, Specsavers and the PDSA Shop to clean up the area.

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## Council's last act would not be good epitaph for Vale

**T**HE decision by the Vale planning committee on the Redrow development in Colwinston is perverse, as it totally ignores numerous planning rules and regulations introduced by the Welsh Government and the Vale Council themselves, in order to avoid unsuitable planning applications being approved.

Evidence was provided about the unsuitability of the site due to flooding, sewerage, drainage, highway infrastructure and the proximity of the local primary school, which adds an element of road safety to the plan.

The report prepared by the case officer was heavily slanted in favour of the application throughout, and one can only assume that the major influences on this decision were:

1. A comment made by the Leader of the Council that "The rural Vale must bear the bulk of development in the

future" – despite this comment contradicting a report produced by his own council that clearly shows the area around Barry, Penarth and the coast is in desperate need of new homes.

2. The large amounts of money available from the developer whose application is successful at a time of cutbacks in local government spending.

3. The fear that a successful appeal by a developer against a refusal will have serious cost implications for the council.

This decision, if left unchallenged by the Welsh Government, will result in the destruction of a small rural community that has developed slowly over 900 years.

It is known that the Vale Council will cease to exist in the foreseeable future and I regret that the legacy of this council could well be the rape of the rural Vale and its communities – not a good epitaph for those involved.

Gareth A Jones, Colwinston.

## 'Sunday parking fines are mean'

**I**CANNOT believe the Vale Council – I am absolutely livid! I went to Holton Road, Barry, to shop on Sunday, as usual, parking outside Iceland.

When I came out there was a man taking photos of cars.

When I approached him, he said he was booking all cars parked without blue badges.

I asked when this law came in, as I had always parked there on a Sunday for as long as I could remember.

He said it was enforced last September. Well, every Sunday since September I have done the same every week – with no problem.

He must have booked about 15 cars: shopkeepers were

booked and people coming out of church, families, and the elderly.

Pensioners were upset and told me that the only day they could come and get their health products at Holland and Barrett, was a Sunday – because they didn't have to walk.

Surely, councillors, make enough money from everything else. To make money from this is diabolical, and they should be ashamed of yourselves.

The shopkeepers are going to lose out. It was like a ghost town after people were being warned and were leaving.

If they're going to be that mean, they should put up posters saying 'No Parking on Sundays' – or was this a ploy?

(Name and address supplied).

# Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

## MORE LETTERS ON WELSH LANGUAGE ISSUE

## 'Respect for others only way to keep community strong'

**I**AM writing in response to the letter published in your newspaper, criticising the use of the Welsh language in your newspaper. I am the owner and founder of Babi Bach – a bilingual music class for little ones teaching English and Welsh through music.

I obviously feel very passionately about the Welsh language and was genuinely shocked to read the anonymous letter criticising your publishing in Welsh in Wales.

I feel that the anonymous writer of the letter is not only ill-informed, but also terribly narrow-minded.

I asked the parents and care givers who bring their little ones to my classes for their responses to the letter and their feedback included: "I pity the misguided author of that article. He (or she) must feel very foolish now. Such a pity that people can't appreciate variety and respect the heritage of the country he's chosen to live in."

– M Williams.

I would like to extend an open invitation to the author of the letter to attend a Babi Bach class and see the amazing effect that being bilingual has on little ones (and their parents) and what it adds to their lives.

Our "insistence on the Welsh language" is, in part, down to the fact that we live in a country that still has its own language that has survived, in various forms, over 1,400 years (old Welsh through to modern Welsh) Why would we

## 'GEM was wrong to print letter'

**R**EGARDING the anonymous letter in The GEM about Welsh speakers in Cowbridge, I am in my 80s – could this reply also be anonymous please?

My main concern is that the person who wrote the letter has such extreme views that I don't think it was a good idea to print the names of people who have replied, and sincerely hope there will not be any repercussions against the writers.

I really feel you have been rather irresponsible in printing the original letter and can only hope that it was, as a lot of people are saying,

written by one of your staff to create a reaction; as obviously if it is anonymous, how can we find out?

(Name and address supplied).

**GEM NOTE:** As we made clear, The GEM made an exception to our policy of not printing anonymous letters, as a matter of public interest.

We would, if asked, have withheld a respondent's identity (as we have done in this case!)

It is impugning The GEM's integrity to suggest the letter was written by a member of staff. That is simply not the case.

## Language of Wales!

**B**EFORE thinking Cowbridge is a foreign import, note the following: this country is WALES. The language is Welsh!

I have just spent 10 years in a land where even the immigration office had no-one who could speak English (or any other language) other than their own – why should they?

I am English and my passion is languages, I use four daily. Peter Crocker, St Athan.

choose to disregard such an integral part of our history and culture?

It is mind boggling to think that this person believes Welsh is turning people away from Wales; is French doing that in France?! Or English in England?! I think not.

In respect of Cowbridge having "always been very un-Welsh" – well, that is just wrong! One example: Iolo Morgannwg, the man who made the Eisteddfod into what it is today, spent a large amount of his time in Cowbridge in the 18th century. The plaque in place to remind us of his link to Cowbridge seems as pertinent as ever! "Y gwir yn erbyn y byd" – The truth against the world!

The Welsh primary school, named after the man himself in Cowbridge, has about 220 children attending – a fact which speaks volumes about how Welsh Cowbridge is.

I believe the author of this letter needs to learn that respect for others is the only way to keep communities and towns strong and successful. I would welcome them in a class of mine anytime (as soon as he or she has learnt the bit about respect).

Penni Carr, Barry.

## 'Waste of time and resource'

**A**LTHOUGH not agreeing with your recent anonymous correspondent regarding Welsh, he or she has valid concerns and in my view, probably has sympathy from all but a few.

Contrary to popular belief amongst a handful of Nationalists, the Welsh language is heading ever faster to its natural moribund resting place, among other long dead dinosaurs.

The vast majority, (at least 80 per cent) of the population, don't want anything to do with the language.

Plaid Cymru, of course, are inextricably linked to it and are forever doomed to be tarnished with anti-English credentials.

Their desperate desire to impose this language on us in order to create a difference

between people in Wales and other people in the UK – where, in fact, one does not exist – is a classic example of being hung by one's own petard.

Why? Because we want to live in the 21st century, in a modern and progressive world – we don't want to wander around the hills 'a-carolling' and reading poems to each other, and we certainly do not want the Welsh language.

It is divisive, parochial, inward looking, anti-green, and a waste of time, money and resources.

The WAG down in Cardiff Bay would never allow us to have our say, which is one more reason why people regard AMs and whatever they do, with complete contempt.

Yes, I'm Welsh – if being born at St David's Hospital, Cardiff, counts. Peter Reed, Barry.

## Misleading data

**A**S readers may be aware, many of the enamel bus plates at bus stops give misleading information.

Where I live, the plates still list the non-existent X45 and 145 etc (not in the area anyway) but the posters and fare information is up to date.

Hopefully, Cardiff Bus and NAT will update these bus stops.

(Name and address supplied).

## TORY CHRONICLE: PAPER OR JUST PROPAGANDA?

**A**RE we living in Wales or North Korea? I have just had a 'newspaper' delivered with no fewer than 11 pictures of our MP, Alun Cairns, in the space of four pages!

On closer inspection, it became clear that, although describing itself and dressed up to look like a newspaper, it is, in fact, a Tory election propaganda sheet.

You have to get to the last page, wading through three pages of self-serving drivel, before the first reference to the 'Conservative Party' appears.

It begs the question,

## 'RIP my old Rhoose friend'

**I**AM writing to you today in disgust, as I am truly appalled at Rhoose Library closing! Sadly, we have lost a battle, but it was worth the fight!

I am disgusted, as the library meant so much to me and my sister; we went there mostly every weekend.

I can't believe they are actually closing such a lovely place down; the staff were lovely and they always had time to give to help their visitors!

I ask myself the

question: "What is this world coming to?"

Everything these days is about the internet; people 'write' to each other on the internet via Email, and now I guess people are going to read using electronic devices!

I think of those poor, old people who liked to go to the library for company.

What if people can't use the internet and rely on books?

Rest In Peace my old friend, Rhoose library!

Ffion Sara Jeffery, Penarth.

## SEE MORE READERS' LETTERS ON PAGE 16

## HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL FEBRUARY 12)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
05 Thur	07.22	9.7	19.35	9.5
06 Fri	07.49	9.6	20.07	9.4
07 Sat	08.21	9.5	20.38	9.3
08 Sun	08.52	9.4	21.07	9.2
09 Mon	09.21	9.1	21.39	8.9
10 Tues	09.53	8.8	22.12	8.6
11 Wed	10.27	8.5	22.53	8.2
12 Thur	11.17	8.1	23.51	7.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

We abide by the code of practice upheld by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This contains provisions for issues such as accuracy.

If you have a complaint, write to us at the address below, left, or call editorial manager Don John on 01446 774484. All complaints will be fully investigated. If you are not satisfied with the outcome, you may wish to contact IPSO c/o Halton House, 20-23 High Holborn, London EC1N 2JD. Website: www.ipso.co.uk. Tel: 0300 123 2220. E-Mail: complaints@ipso.co.uk. Enquiries: inquiries@ipso.co.uk.

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# JAM FUND'S SUPPORT IS ONGOING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

One of the balloons was discovered on Boxing Day near Glastonbury by Tina James.

She said: "We live at Hayvatt and I was out walking the dog and found the balloon. We saw it had come from Wales and thought it was a really good idea."

Paul said it was fitting that the balloon had been discovered near Glastonbury where rock's greatest festival is held.

"Jamie loved three things, Lord of the Rings, football and rock music – it was as if Jamie had influenced

where the balloon ended up."

Tina contacted Paul and they decided to approach the Central Somerset Gazette to let people in the county know that the Jam Fund is hoping to find a child who could benefit from a donation.

A donation could help with treatment costs, a wheelchair or some equipment.

If people would like to support the Jam Fund they can contact Paul by email: [jam.fund@sky.com](mailto:jam.fund@sky.com).

## Golf club champion 'claimed and played'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

In May 2007, he said he could only walk 50 metres and it took 10-15 minutes. This effect on him was seven days a week, causing him such severe discomfort that sometimes his wife had to put on his shoes and shirt, and he had problems opening cans and peeling potatoes.

Over the years, it was alleged, his allowances were increased and he once claimed he had to use a walking stick.

But, alleged Mr

McLeese, he had not indicated the true position.

The DWP received an anonymous call and began an investigation when they discovered he was a member of St Andrews Major Golf Club.

On July 12, a surveillance was carried out in secret at the club and it was claimed he played the course in four-and-a-half hours.

It was claimed by the prosecution that he played competitive golf and once played five

days in a row. Mr McLeese said he was interviewed by the DWP in July 2012, and admitted he had to report any change in his circumstances; but he said at the time that his condition was "prone to flare ups" and he would only play after taking medication.

The jury was shown a video of him playing golf on the first tee and approaching the 18th green.

The case continues.

## War-time Weekend seeks sponsors

THE heritage museum on Barry Island Railway Station will be open this Sunday, February 8, from 11am to 4pm and welcomes any war-time photographs to share.

The Barry at War Group has begun preparations to mark the 70th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day

with a special event at Barry Island Station on Saturday, May 9. As part of the commemoration it would like to display photos from VE Day or VJ Day street parties.

Sponsors are being sought for the Fourth War-time Weekend (WW4) in Barry on June 20-21.

Bronwen Harries, who grew up and went to school in Barry, is an anthropology student at

Goldsmiths University, London, completing a project on 'austerity chic', which refers to the current trend of buying objects similar in design to those used in World War Two and post-war Britain, particularly in the home-front kitchen.

She would like to interview interested folk at the Glamorgan War-time Heritage Centre at Barry Island Station between 12 noon and 4pm on February 11.

Contact Glenn Booker at Barry at War Group, [glenn.booker501@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:glenn.booker501@yahoo.co.uk).

## Craft Fair

ENFYS Craft Fairs holds its first fair of this new year on Saturday (February 7) at St Francis Millennium Hall, Park Road Barry from 10am – 4pm.

For more information contact Beryl on 01446 418695 or Cyril on 01446 400149.

## Extra maths pays dividends at Barry Comprehensive School



Some of the students who achieved A\*/A grades.

THE summer examinations are still some way away, but some Barry Comprehensive School students already have a GCSE under their belts.

Last November, a group of 95 year-11 students took the opportunity to sit their GCSE mathematics examinations early. The students took part in an intensive revision and support programme that included extra classes and sessions after school and during holidays.

Of the 95, 71 gained A\* – C grades (74 per cent) with 20 students achieving A\*/A.

A number of students improved by two grades from their result at the end of year 10: Robert

Boyt improved from grade C to grade A; Joshua Thompson improved from grade C to grade A; Luke Sylvester improved from grade D to grade B; Tom Pugh improved from grade D to grade B; Harry Morgan-Grant improved from grade D to grade B; Lewis Thomas improved from grade D to grade B; Ryan Jones improved from grade D to grade B. One student, Jack Everest, improved from

grade D to grade A. The students are now pursuing further qualifications in financial services and additional mathematics.

Ian Deasy, head of key stage 4 mathematics, commented: "We are delighted that so many students achieved the result their efforts deserved. Students displayed a positive attitude to their learning and a willingness to put in the work required to be successful."

## POLICE SEEK THE DRIVER WHO APPROACHED BOY

POLICE in Barry are appealing for witnesses, after a teenage boy was approached by a man on Colcot Road, Barry.

The victim was waiting at the bus stop along Colcot Road at about 3.05pm on Tuesday, January 13, when a small, dark green car pulled up alongside him and the man started up a brief conversation.

The teenager didn't encourage the conversation and the man drove off.

The man is described as being white, aged between 20 and 30 years

of age with dark hair. He was clean shaven.

PCSO Adam Like said: "We urgently need to trace the driver of the small car, as we do not yet know what his intentions were, but we need to find him."

"At this stage, we are asking anyone who may have seen a man and car that matches the description, to come forward and let us know."

Call South Wales Police on 101, quoting reference number 1500016407. Alternatively Crimestoppers can be contacted free and anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

## Barry man is on bail until March

A 20-year-old man from Barry was arrested in connection with two assaults that occurred in Llantwit Major on Saturday, January 31, between 8.50pm and 9pm.

South Wales Police said he was on bail until March 2, pending further enquiries.

## Penarth path project begins

THE Vale Council has announced that the Paget Road to Penarth Portway Woodland Path project is now under way.

It will see the footpath linking Penarth Marina with the junction of Dock Hill Road and Paget Terrace reinstated as an alternative and less steep route from the Marina to Paget Road.

"The path, which was initially cleared in December, will be re-laid and new concrete steps installed at either end of the path," a spokesperson said.

"It is expected that the work will take around five weeks, during which there may be period of traffic management to enable the works to be undertaken. The path is due to be completed in March."

## Library call

ON Saturday, February 7 – National Library Day – residents are being urged to go to Rhosce Library at midday and show their support.

"You can also show your love for the library by giving a Valentine card – the postcode is CF62 3DS," a spokesman said.

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## Total of 1,323 names on petition

ON Wednesday, December 17, the 'Save Rhosce Library' campaign handed in a 1,323 name petition to the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

The people of Rhosce objected to the downgrading of Rhosce library by cutting the hours and replacing the two part time staff with volunteers.

I would like to thank everyone who signed the petition, and all the owners, managers and staff of the shops and businesses in Rhosce who put the petition on

display. The petition is now part of the response to the library proposals and will be considered in the report back to the Vale Council Cabinet in February or March.

The campaign continues – Saturday, February 7 is National Library Day – please come to the library at midday to show your support.

You can also show your love for the library by giving a Valentine Card – the postcode is CF62 3DS.

Cliff Darlington, Rhosce.



# Ramblers go from Coed y Werin to Blaen Cwm Nofydd...

**PREVIOUS** heavy rainfall raised the potential for a few underfoot problems for Penarth and District Ramblers in the shape of mud and surface water as a group of 18 met up with leader Liz in bright sunshine at Mountain car park.

Muddy paths led towards pretty woodland at The Warren and entering Coed y Werin, they began their undulating 9-mile journey which in total meant 959-metres of ascent.

Following part of the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk uphill to the open ridge and on to an old disused quarry, containing cattle and calves, they enjoyed

glorious views across Caerphilly. A stop was made for morning refreshments.

Then passing above the old Caerphilly railway tunnel, which is deep underground, and following the well-worn farm track leading to Cefn-onn Farm, pretty paths through woodland with horse riders and dog-walkers for company led on towards the site of old lime kilns, before the steep descent to cross a stream.

Picking their way carefully across a boggy and muddy field and climbing up through woodland, a long pull up a wet stony path in Coed Coesau Whips led to a stop for lunch in warm sunshine.

The group joined a bridleway along the ridge above Craig Lllysfaen. The long-

distance view inland and out over the Bristol Channel to Cardiff Bay and Penarth Head was somewhat hazy.

The walkers then followed a road, a waterlogged path, and passed through a line of hazel trees adorned with catkins running parallel to the golf course, before slithering along muddy woodland paths. Another climb up a rough track

running with water at Craig Llanishen led them to Blaen Cwm Nofydd.

From the busy A469 and crossing part of the golf course, another climb up steps brought them back to their start point. Some of the group partook of refreshments at the Traveller's Rest, prior to their journey home.

On February 7, meet

at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 6.5-mile moderate walk at Ebbw Vale; contact Rachel on 01446 410545.

To follow the group log [www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com](http://www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com). Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

**JOY STRANGWARD**

## Burns night raises over £300 for homeless charity



THE toast is... 'the Lassies'! Proposer Luke Cowpe, master of ceremonies Jon Cowpe, and the bagpiper in south Wales, John

Campbell, raise a glass to the ladies at the Burns Night Supper at St Mary's Church Hall, Dinas Powys on Saturday, January 24.

A traditional meal of haggis, tatties and neeps was preceded by the ceremonial piping in the haggis and a recitation of the bard's 'Address To A Haggis'.

The evening raised over £300 for Shelter Cymru.

For more information, contact [davidevans398@gmail.com](mailto:davidevans398@gmail.com).

## 'PLAID CYMRU IS PLAYING POLITICS WITH PLANNING'

**I FEEL that I must respond to The GEM article 'Labour no show at a planning meeting'.**

Over 40 years the planning meetings at Barry Town Council have been non-political as the make-up of the committee is on a ward basis, and not the political make-up of the council.

Several times we have had to ensure that all wards are represented and where there has been a shortfall the council has ensured that all matters are covered.

With regard to the content of the article, the committee has late items come from the Vale in its role of principal planning authority, and seeking the views of Barry Town Council in its role of statutory consultee. Some of these items are tabled at the meeting, which is done quite often (not an ideal situation).

At the last planning meeting held on January 6, the document referred to by Coun Shirley Hodges was such an item. I took a view to accept the lateness of the item, and the date for a response, and I would put the item up for debate, so meeting the requirements as far as dates were concerned.

This was objected to by Coun Shirley Hodges, but the rest of the committee accepted my view, but as she represented 12.5 per cent of the committee wards I accepted that no debate would take place.

I instructed the administration to make the necessary arrangements but to meet the timescale only one date was available.

This was done, but unfortunately other ward members had other commitments that could not be cancelled.

The Vale Council was seeking views from ward members and not political parties, but from The GEM's article it would appear Plaid Cymru members are issuing their political agenda instead of ward matters in planning.

Is there an election coming up? I will of course report back to the council on this matter who may wish to take a view of the situation.

**Coun Karl Kuhnell, Chairman of Barry Town Council planning committee.**

## 'Some parking in Witchell area is causing problems' says councillor

**A BARRY Councillor is calling for better parking enforcement of traffic at a busy junction.**

Coun Richard Bertin, who represents the Court Ward, has said he would like the new double yellow lines monitored outside the Barry Road Post Office in the Witchell area.

He contacted the Vale highways department and South Wales Police following complaints about dangerous parking. Coun Bertin said he

has received complaints about the illegal parking despite having yellow lines put there.

It has become a problem not only for motorists but pedestrians trying to cross at the site.

Coun Bertin said: "I have received numerous complaints about motorists parking on double yellow lines at this site."

"This is a serious accident waiting to happen and I would like to see this site better monitored by the traffic enforcement team."

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## More improvements planned on Island

A SECOND phase of improvement works are due to commence this week at Barry Island as a follow-up to the regeneration of the eastern promenade.

Improvements will include the restoration of the bandstand, the creation of a ramp to the coastwatch centre, and improved safety for visitors through the installation of a new guard rail along Clements Colley Walk.

In addition, new surfacing to match the eastern promenade and new planting and repairs to the rockery

walls at the promenade gardens will be undertaken to ensure the resort is looking its best for the start of the season.

The works are set to further enhance the area and improve access and enjoyment for both current residents and new visitors to Barry Island.

Coun Lis Burnett, cabinet member for regeneration, said: "We want everyone to enjoy the excellent facilities of Barry Island, and the latest phase of improvements demonstrates the council's continued commitment to reviving Barry Island as a leading visitor destination."

## Churchill's funeral... ...and how Jim stepped into the pages of history

LAST week the nation commemorated the 50th anniversary of Winston Churchill's state funeral, and for a man in Llantwit Major who was part of the guard of honour it brought memories flooding back.

Jim Muir, who works for the town council, was 17-years-old on that chilly January day in 1965.

"I'd joined the RAF at the age of 15 years and eight months - my parents had had to sign a release form.

"At the time of the funeral I was stationed at RAF Binbrook in Lincolnshire. I was part of the guard of honour in case of ceremonial events such as a royal visit."

Winston Churchill died on Sunday, January 24, 1965, at his home in

London following a stroke. By royal decree, his body lay in state for three days at Westminster Hall and a state funeral followed on January 30 at St Paul's Cathedral.

Word came through to Binbrook that its servicemen would be needed at his funeral - the first RAF guard of honour to be invited.

Jim and his colleagues had to travel down to Woolwich, Arsenal to train with the Army in readiness for the momentous day.

"When we got on the coach to travel down to London, they said two of us didn't have to go. No one stepped off. That's how much it meant.

"On the day of the funeral it was freezing. We were just outside St Paul's next to the Army and facing the route.

"We held our rifles

*'rest on your arms reversed'* with the rifle muzzle on your toe and hands on the top of the rifle butt. We bowed our heads as the cortege passed. There were huge crowds and it was a great honour."

The base at RAF Binbrook got a day off as a thank you!

Jim, who left the RAF in 2006, has been able to tell his grandson about the day he stepped into the pages of history.

Ben, aged 18, is a member of the guard of honour at Arborfield the regimental headquarters of 'REME' - the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers of the British Army.

Winston Churchill was buried in a family plot at St Martin's Church, Bladon, a mile from Blenheim Palace where he was born.

## Should complex for older people be constructed at Woodlands Road?



ABOVE: Coun Ian Johnson said the Woodlands Road site would be ideal for an 'older people's complex'.

PLAID CYMRU councillor for Barry town centre, Coun Ian Johnson, has called for a vacant site on Woodlands Road to become an older people's village.

The former maternity hospital and adult training centre on Woodlands Road, near Jenner Park football ground, was demolished at the start of last year when the Vale Council's social services department declared it surplus to use.

But a recent council report showed a substantial need for older people's housing in the Vale.

Plaid Cymru councillor Ian Johnson says that the Woodlands Road site is excellently located - close to the

council's own adult services department, bus stops on Gladstone Road and only a short distance from Barry town centre.

He said: "The former maternity hospital on Woodlands Road is a large site that is no longer in use and for sale from the council.

"I have previously asked for local people to be involved in a consultation as to what they would like to see there, but sadly, the council has refused to allow them.

"Realistically there are few non-housing options for the site, although there could be some sort of mixed development that included necessary public services."

Coun Johnson added: "I would like to see the council properly investigate an older people's housing complex on Woodlands Road so that we can meet the needs of older people in Barry."

## Ysgol Maes Dyfan site to be developed?

THE Vale Council and Persimmon Homes have exchanged conditional contracts for a new residential development, subject to planning permission, on the site of Ysgol Maes Dyfan in Barry.

The 3.67 acre site located in Gibbonsdown, Barry, was recently marketed as a housing development opportunity by marketing agents Rawlins and Madley and leading national house builder Persimmon Homes was selected as the preferred bidder.

Persimmon have submitted two planning applications for phases one and two of a new two phased housing development comprising a mix of both private and

affordable homes, which members of the public will be able to view at the council's docks offices or on the council's website.

The Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Coun Neil Moore, said: "I am very pleased that Persimmon Homes has committed to delivering this much needed investment to the area.

"Their redevelopment proposals for the site will need to be carefully considered by the council in its role as Local Planning Authority and will of course be subject to community consultation.

"However, if approved, this scheme will help to regenerate the land being vacated by the school and provide new affordable and private homes for the area, as well as creating a number of construction jobs," he added.

## Police seize large amounts of cannabis

AN investigation has been launched after officers in Barry found two cannabis factories in the town.

Officers carried out full searches on properties in Gladstone Road and Woodlands Road in Barry and discovered cannabis farms containing over 500 plants with an estimated value of between £168,000 and £500,000.

Plants and a large amount of hydroponics equipment were recovered.

Yanko Yankulov (44), from Gladstone Road, Barry, has been charged in connection with the find on Gladstone Road and is currently in police custody.

A 27-year-old man from Barry was arrested in connection with the cannabis found at Woodlands Road and is currently on police bail pending further enquiries.

APPEAL  
Detective Sergeant Julian Kerslake said: "These cases highlight the fact that cannabis factories can be anywhere.

"We would urge people to be on their guard and to report any suspicious activity

in their area to police immediately. Even the smallest amount of information can be useful. This could be as simple as reporting suspicious activity or passing on information in relation to a building that you suspect is being used to grow cannabis."

DS Kerslake added: "It could even be reporting a strange smell coming from a property. Cannabis factories are often found thanks to information provided by the local community."

South Wales Police are appealing to anyone with any information about the discovery on Gladstone Road to contact them on 101.

Officers are particularly keen to hear from anyone who may have spotted a dark blue Volkswagen going back and forth on Gladstone Road prior to Monday, January 12.

Information can also be passed on anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



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## NEWS IN BRIEF Mayor's Fairtrade coffee morning

THE Mayor of Barry, Coun Jeff Evans will be hosting a Fairtrade coffee morning on Tuesday, February 10 from 10am - 2pm in the council chamber.

All are welcome to attend and enjoy a selection of Fairtrade products, as well as a raffle.

## Dinas Powys local history

THE next meeting of the Dinas Powys Local History Society will be held on Tuesday, February 10 in Kynance Hall at 7.30pm.

There will be an illustrated lecture by Jean Harvey entitled 'The Wall Came Tumbling Down - the rise and fall of the Berlin Wall.'

An admin fee of £3 for non-members and £1.50 for members will be charged. All are very welcome to attend. Enquiries to Betty Williams (02920 513524).

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# Camera Club looks back on year at awards evening

**BARRY Camera Club wound up a busy 2014 with a November three-way battle with Merthyr and Rhiwbina Camera Clubs.**

The judge on this occasion was Gareth Martin, who expressed his pleasure at the very high overall standard of both prints and digital images, which was reflected in the close marking of the entries.

Barry came a very pleasing first place in the print section but, unfortunately, we were up against some stiff opposition in the projected images section and slipped to third place.

This was followed by a portrait evening led by Martin Pinches, who brought along his professional lighting rig and the lovely Clare for us to photograph. No doubt we will be seeing some of her pictures in forthcoming monthly competitions and appraisal evenings.

November was wrapped up with the monthly competition judged by Mervyn Pugh, who gave us a detailed and well received critique of the entries.

He started with the

mono prints and congratulations to Andrew Hallum, who gained his first maximum of 20 points and a deserved first place with his rendition of Newport Transporter Bridge.

Barbara Archdale-Smith did well, gaining second place with her 'Neglected', and her 'Let's Go Surfing' shared third place with Rob Owens' 'The Old Tannery'.

Barbara also did well in the colour print section getting a maximum 20 points and first place for her 'A Pair of Red Umbrellas'. Rob Owens gained second place with 'Winter Light' and three prints shared third place: Glen Porter's 'Lake District Ramblers', Hugh Winnan's 'Wood And Glass Design' and another Glen Porter print 'Sunset Over New York Skyline'.

The projected image, always the most hotly contested category, was very close this month and was won by Ken Mayled, who gained a maximum 20 points for his 'Inbound'. This was closely followed by two prints each scoring 19 points and sharing second place, Brian Trego's 'End Of The Day' and Tom

Alexander's 'Happy Moment'. These in turn were pushed all the way by Glen Porter's 'Beach Boys' and Mike Lewis' 'I'm Watching You', which each gained 18 points.

December, as usual, was truncated by the holiday period. We were visited on the 6th of the month by Jenny Hibbert who gave us a talk entitled 'Tales of the Riverbank', and showed us some very interesting and high quality natural history images.

The following week our own 'Mr Landscape', Roy Carr, gave a presentation entitled 'An Outdoor Life'. Roy is a prolific scenic photographer who travels far and wide in pursuit of his photography. He displayed many of his prints and projected digital images of landscapes from both home and away, including a fabulous series of images taken in Iceland.

The year was completed before the Christmas break with the December monthly competition. The judge was Alan Shepherd, who lived up to his reputation and gave us a judging that was described by one member as "firm but fair".

As usual, the mono prints were presented first, with Glen Porter gaining a maximum 20 points and first place with a shot of the New York skyline entitled 'Chrysler Building'.

In an unusual coincidence, Mike Lewis shared second place with himself with two prints entitled 'In Need Of Repair' and 'Ebb Tide', with Rob Owens also sharing third place with his prints 'Steel Works' and 'Barrage Display'.

Next came the colour prints, with first place going to Barbara Archdale-Smith with her 20-point winner 'Only A Shell Remains'. Mike Lewis gained second place with his 'Upturned Boat And Anchor' and third place was shared between Rob Owens with his 'Look!' and Roy Carr's Icelandic landscape shot 'Skaftafel: Basalt and Water'. The Projected Images category attracted a wide range of marks, but with 20 points Ken Mayled took first place with his 'Eye Contact'. Second place was shared between David Green with 'Touch Down' and Steve Everett with his 'British Fireworks Championship'. Third place was shared

between Glen Porter with his 'New York Fire Escape' and Kathy Edwards with her natural history shot 'Praying Mantis'.

Congratulations to all who gained placings with their work, particularly David, Steve and Kath who prevented the 'regulars' from dominating the Projected Images category.

We look forward to 2015 and once again there is a full programme of talks, demonstrations, competitions and inter-club battles planned.

New members are particularly encouraged and will be made most welcome, with a programme being prepared especially for the new and less experienced photographers to allow them to quickly gain more proficiency and satisfaction from their hobby.

Barry Camera Club meets every Friday evening from 7pm to 9.30pm at St Francis Millennium Centre, Porth-y-Castell, Barry Garden Suburb, Barry, CF62 6NX. For more information visit our website [www.barrycameraclub.co.uk](http://www.barrycameraclub.co.uk).

Rob Nicholas



## First phase of activities centre to start next month

**THIS aerial photograph shows the Mole sticking out into Barry Docks, where the Barry Community Water Activities Centre is to be built.**

The first phase is to start next month, when the slipway, storage and boat compounds, car parking, security fencing, roadways and temporary changing facilities are to be undertaken, with completion in time for the boating season.

The following phase is the building of the community centre at the end of the Mole.

Architects interested in undertaking the design of the centre, which can

be seen from the project of the BCWAC is given on their website - [www.bcwac.org.uk](http://www.bcwac.org.uk)

It is also planned for this site to be bi-lingual and the PR and marketing committee are requesting anyone with translational ability to help, and join the other

30 volunteers progressing the project.

## Downhill Derby

**THE Penarth Downhill Derby will form part of this year's Carnival Day on July 11 and the 50th anniversary of the summer festival.**

The newly-designed course (still on Cliffhill) will feature obstacles, jumps etc plus a route for speed. Full details from Keri Hutchings, Deputy Town Clerk, Penarth Town Council (tel 02920 713843) or [www.penarthtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.penarthtowncouncil.gov.uk).



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# 'Lovely Llantwit' scores top marks with resident

A severely disabled woman from Llantwit Major says she was deeply touched by the "wonderful kindness" shown to her when she was in the town centre last week.

Penny McVittie (44) a native of Llantwit, enjoys regular visits to the shopping area, but last week had to contend with stormy weather and concerns about whether she would fall over.

She explained: "Although I'm severely disabled, I very much look forward to going into Llantwit Major in my wheelchair or on crutches."

"This is no easy task at any time, but last week the driving rain and high winds were making it even more difficult than usual."

"As I left Nat West Bank on crutches, the weather made it very hard for me to cross the road."

But Penny need not have worried – local people were keen to lend a supportive hand.

"I was so touched when one of the lovely bank staff hurriedly pulled on her coat to help me make it safely across."

"As we reached the other side of the road, a lovely elderly man called Gordon took over, helping to steer me toward the local chemist shop."

"Along the way, we were joined by yet another kind person – a lady in a pink coat – who helped guide me safely into the chemist."

"This wonderful display of kindness didn't stop there! Two assistants from the chemist insisted on helping me toward my taxi, even as the kind driver from Heritage Cars met us at the shop."

by GEM REPORTER



**ABOVE:**  
Penny relaxing in her garden – one of her great loves: "The happiness of gardening is forgetting about your problems. It is very therapeutic."

door.

"I was overwhelmed by the kindness and want to thank each of them for helping me on that dreadfully windy and wet day. I am so glad I live in a town full of such lovely, kind people."

Penny said the generosity of spirit she experienced is not universally offered elsewhere to people with disabilities.

In her opinion, Britain is a good place for a disabled person to live, but she has found people in large cities such as London and New York less sympathetic.

"My neighbours are helpful too – I feel safe in this community. I do fall over sometimes, so it is important to know help is at hand."

Despite her problems

Penny has a very positive attitude to life – something she attributes to Buddhism and meditation.

One of the great pleasures of her life is gardening.

"The happiness of gardening is forgetting about your problems. It is very therapeutic. I belong to 'Thrive', a charity that encourages people with poor health to get involved in horticulture. It has been amazing for me."

Penny has devoted a lot of time to voluntary work over the years – the Amelia Trust, Cubs and Thrive – and is thrilled to have been invited up to Buckingham Palace for a garden party this spring in recognition of her service.

## Pier and esplanade work to start soon

A SUCCESSFUL year for Penarth pier and the pavilion is set to continue with additional improvements set for the pier, esplanade and cliff top.

Local contractors are already on site at the pier and esplanade repainting railings and beginning work on the refurbishment of seating and lighting columns with options also being considered for new festoon lighting on the pier and esplanade.

The scheme also includes work to enhance the existing highway layout at the junction of Cliff Hill and Marine Parade by replacing the temporary highway infrastructure as well as refurbishing the cliff-top car park to maximise parking opportunities.

The additional work is planned for mid-February.

Penarth won the coveted 'Pier of the Year 2014' award and these additional works are set to enhance the area further.

Additional improvement works are planned for the esplanade but the council will be engaging with the town council, local residents and businesses on final designs.

Cabinet member for regeneration, Coun Lis Burnett, said: "This investment is part of a range of initiatives to boost tourism and the continued enjoyment of the pier, the esplanade and the surrounding area for visitors and local residents. We're expecting even more visitors in the coming months eager to see the UK Pier of the Year, and we want to make sure Penarth is looking its best."



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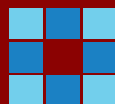
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## Council bans sky lanterns

**THE Vale Council has become the seventh authority in Wales to agree a ban on sky lanterns.**

The ban applies to the release of sky lanterns from all council-owned land, including schools, and would also apply to events organised by third parties held on council property.

Coun Neil Moore, Leader of the council, said: "As well as posing a significant fire hazard and being a form of litter, the lanterns pose a real danger to pets, wild animals and livestock that may ingest the remains after they fall to ground."

"It is for these reasons that I am very happy to announce that we have

taken the decision to ban the use of sky lanterns on all council land."

RSPCA Cymru's public affairs manager, Chris O'Brien, said: "This is great news for local wildlife, livestock and other animals."

"We're delighted to work closely with Vale Council in the interests of animal welfare, and welcome that they have taken this important step, meaning almost a third of local authorities in Wales have acted against the use of sky lanterns."

The Vale Council now joins Cardiff, Caerphilly, Carmarthenshire, Conwy, Neath Port Talbot and Pembrokeshire in introducing a ban.

## Question time on Island regeneration

**YEAR-9 pupils from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg in Barry quizzed Vale MP Alun Cairns about the regeneration of Barry Island after the students researched plans announced by funfair operator Henry Danter.**

Mr Cairns explained the work done to bring parties together for the benefit of visitors to Barry Island. He commented: "The regeneration of Barry Island is such a symbolic project, with both pupils and teachers keen to see the area redeveloped. I am happy to discuss any project that will benefit Barry and the wider Vale – and it was very pleasing to see such in-depth research and interest undertaken by the year-9 students."

### Benefits advice

**DO you live in the Vale and need advice on benefits such as pension credit attendance allowance housing benefit or disability living allowance?**

Age Connect Cardiff and Vale, a welfare rights service can help you with these issues.

An adviser will be available to chat to you on any of these benefit issues, and help with form filling. A session is being held on Tuesday, February 10 from 9.30am to 11.30am at The Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry.

You can make an appointment by calling into the shop, contact 01446 732385 or call in on the day. Home visits can also be arranged.



## Mud, mud, glorious mud – AND SIGNS OF SPRING!

**THE Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers met in Cowbridge Town Hall car park, before making our way to St Fagan's Museum for an eight-mile walk in the local area.**

The weather was cold, but it was a dry sunny day, as we made our way out of the museum grounds, and crossing under the busy link road, walked across the fields to the village of St George.

The snowdrops and daffodils we saw on the way were a welcome sight, as an indication that spring is on its way. The walk leaders were Mike Carey and Adrian Rowe. In the write-up prior to the walk, it was mentioned that there would be plenty of mud – it didn't disappoint as there was plenty of mud as we crossed the various

fields!

Enjoying lunch in peace and tranquillity within earshot of the busy motorway, we were reminded how fortunate we are to have such fantastic walking opportunities on our doorstep.

Ty Du was the most northerly point of the walk – it was the point where we had friendly cows coming to say hello, and

the miniature ponies who again were very inquisitive and friendly.

Before we knew it, we were on our way down towards the start point at St Fagan's.

Further information is available on [valeofglamorganramblers.co.uk](http://valeofglamorganramblers.co.uk) or visit our Facebook page.

Gwenda Fitzpatrick.

### LEGAL ADVICE

AGE Connect Cardiff and the Vale is holding a free legal advice session at The Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, February 10 (10am – 12 midday).

If you are over 50 and worried about a legal matter, other than criminal law, chat to a local legal team based in Barry. This service is run monthly and no appointment is needed. Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

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# WALES IS GOING FOR GREEN GROWTH... AND CURB ON FRACKING

**THIS week, I have been speaking at a conference in Cardiff about our Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan and its links to 'green growth' – which is a crucial aspect of our commitment to sustainable development in Wales.**

The Europe 2020 ten-year growth strategy has green growth at its heart and the funding we get from the European Union is predicated on moving towards green growth and low carbon economies.

In Wales we are already undertaking considerable 'green investment' in both the private and public sectors. Sustainable waste management is just one example.

Since 2009, the Welsh Government has facilitated the procurement of waste treatment infrastructure by local authorities to enable Wales to meet its EU waste diversion targets and national statutory

recycling targets.

The investment has been through two programmes – the food and organic waste programme and the residual waste programme. Already, these have secured significant economies of scale and savings against future costs, amounting to over £5.5 million on food waste and over £500 million on the residual waste programme.

Congratulations to the Vale of Glamorgan Council for their significant achievements in driving forward their recycling policies resulting in higher recycling and helping to create a green Wales economy.

At a recent visit to St Brides Major School with cabinet member for schools, Coun Chris Elmore, we talked to pupils who had been recognised that week for championing the schools eco rules and their commitment to protecting the environment was clear.

I am also responsible for the Welsh Government 'Invest to Save' fund, which provides interest-free loans to support

projects in the public sector, with a ring-fenced allocation for projects which help Wales achieve our carbon reduction targets.

The introduction of energy-saving efficiencies, such as LED lighting in the Children's Hospital is saving money to put to the front line in our NHS in Wales.

Our prospectus for Green Growth in Wales sets out how in Wales we offer a unique wealth of natural resources combined with significant investment in our infrastructure in resource efficiency, renewable energy generation and waste products.

In our Budget for 2015-16, I have also committed £5 million to provide practical and technical support for Green Growth projects, particularly in the public sector.

Alongside this drive towards Green Growth in Wales we have a number of developments we are supporting such as the exciting Tidal Lagoons Project in Swansea Bay, and our focus on Marine Energy is reflected in our

Wales/Ireland Programme which has just received approval for a new £80million round of funding over the next phase of EU support.

Last week, First Minister, Carwyn Jones AM made a commitment in response to questions about the Welsh Government's response to fracking in Wales, which is of considerable interest in the Vale of Glamorgan.

At present, the Welsh Government does not have the powers to grant licences for fracking – this power rests with the UK Government.

*The First Minister said he wants to see the power to grant licences devolved to Wales. Wales can then consider an effective moratorium on fracking.*

## ASSEMBLY NOTES



by  
**Jane Hutt**  
AM (Minister for Finance)

## The Llansannor LAMBS hear tales of the Bridgend arsenal

AN audience of over 30 local people was in Llansannor Community Hall on January 27 for an event organised by the LAMBS local history group: an illustrated talk by Michael Clubb on Bridgend arsenal, a major Royal Ordnance factory during the Second World War.

A former history teacher at Brynteg School, Mr Clubb has published a book on the arsenal.

The speaker delivered a highly

informative and entertaining talk recounting the extraordinary story of what was the largest war factory in Britain.

Little trace of the factory now remains although the South Wales Police building was once the arsenal HQ.

The factory employed over 30,000 people who came from all parts of Glamorgan every day by train and by bus. Mr Clubb's amusing anecdotes about individual staff personalities vividly brought the factory back to

life.

The arsenal was a filling factory that dealt with volatile and dangerous materials. Inevitably there were explosions: some died, others were terribly injured, but, as Mr Clubb said, for most employees the experience was enjoyable and even liberating.

The talk was enthusiastically received, and Jim Duffield thanked the speaker on behalf of the LAMBS group for providing such a stimulating evening.

MB

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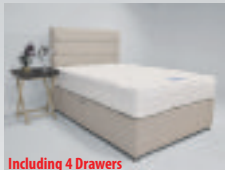
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## Fundraising gala raises £2,000 for Ty Hafan

LEFT: Rebecca Chick, business and community fundraiser at Ty Hafan and Vic Thomas, operations director at FCA Cymru.

**FOSTER Care Associates (FCA) Cymru recently held a fundraising gala dinner in aid of Ty Hafan children's hospice in Swansea, raising £2,000.**

Vic Thomas, operations director at FCA Cymru, visited Sully to present a cheque to Rebecca Chick, business and community fundraiser at Ty Hafan.

The annual event is the highlight in FCA Cymru's fundraising calendar, and was attended by generous local businesses and carers from all across south Wales who raised the cash through auctions, raffles and donations on the night.

Auction prizes included tickets to warm-up games for the Rugby World Cup and signed Welsh rugby and football shirts, all helping to lift the fundraising total.

Vic Thomas said: "It was an absolute privilege to organise a fundraising event for this wonderful

organisation and recognise the amazing work Ty Hafan do for children with life limited illnesses and their families. I know the money raised will be used to continue to support their fantastic work."

Rebecca Chick, business and community fundraiser at Ty Hafan, said: "We are incredibly grateful to FCA Cymru for organising a gala dinner and raising a fantastic amount of money for Ty Hafan."

"We need to raise £3.7m each year to support life-limited children and their families from across Wales."

"We simply couldn't continue to provide our services without the generosity and kindness shown by the public and organisations like FCA Cymru."

For more information on becoming a foster carer with the FCA, call 0800 023 4561 or visit [www.thefca.co.uk](http://www.thefca.co.uk).

## SULLY WAR VETERAN FEATURES ON EGGHEADS

**EILEEN Younghusband BEM, 93, author of One Woman's War and Men I Have I Known appeared on BBC2's Eggheads this week.**

Eileen, who lives in Sully, featured alongside fellow winners of the People's Book Prize.

She said: "I've always been a fan of the Eggheads and was really pleased to be asked,

especially to be alongside esteemed contestants such as Frederick Forsyth, Amy Elliott-Smith, Griselda Heppel and Giles Paley-Phillips."

The programme, which was recorded last year, was shown on Monday, February 2 at 6pm.

Her People's Book Prize-winning memoir *One Woman's War* reveals the truth about the forgotten wartime women, who, barely out of their teens, were given an awesome responsibility. Working against the clock, they calculated the targets of the Luftwaffe's bombing fleets from information supplied by Britain's pioneering radar network.

## Hospital bids farewell to lead chaplain

A NEW chapter is about to be written in the life of a 'pillar of the hospital community', who is retiring after 20 years service to patients.

Lead chaplain Avril Daffydd-Lewis has been an important part of life at University Hospital of Llandough for a number of years, but has chosen to retire to pursue her goal of becoming a successful author.

She has already won the backing of a New York Times bestselling author, who has agreed to become her mentor.

Friends, family and colleagues joined Avril for a retirement lunch at the hospital chapel.

Peter Welsh, the general manager at UHL, paid tribute to Avril's role in hospital life.

He said: "What an impact she has had here at Llandough. If there's one person who is known throughout the hospital it is Avril. The support she has given to staff is incredible - we can't thank you enough in that respect."

"There is a sense of community here and Avril is a real pillar of that and we are all really sorry to see you retiring, but we are sure we will see her again."

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## Vale People First says 'thank you'



VALE People First 'Real Lives' held a coffee morning at the Civic Offices in Barry to raise awareness of their healthy change project.

We want to make health services more accessible and influence how we would like to be treated, we want to be heard.

The mayor and mayoress kindly offered their help by inviting us to the Civic Offices in Barry.

Not only did we raise awareness of the project but we raised £400 to help Vale People First continue to support people with a learning disability to have their say. Thank you to all who supported the event.

Geoff Davies (Real Lives facilitator)



Roma the Beagle.

The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find suitable homes for inmates at the Bridgend rehoming centre.

## ROMA NEEDS TIME TO SETTLE!

ROMA is a Beagle who is around three-years-old and initially came into the centre in a terrible state, having been found as a stray, but has come into her own with some 'TLC'.

She mixes well with other dogs and shows more of her personality when she is with them, so it is essential that she goes to live with another well-adjusted dog already in the home.

New owners will need some dog experience and multiple visits are required to get to know her. She just needs time and space to settle into her new home.

If you can offer Roma a home, please call 01656 725219; or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend, we are open 12pm - 4pm every day except Wednesday.

LINDA FEAGAN (Supporter Relations officer Dogs Trust Bridgend)

## Valeways walks

ON Tuesday, February 10 at 1.30pm, 'The Lake in the Woods', starting at Hensol Forest car park, Welsh St Donats.

On Wednesday, February 11 at 10.30am, the coffee shop strollers meet at Romilly Cafe, Cold Knap, Barry.

On Tuesday, February 17 at 10am, Hoffi Cerdded, Hoffi Coffi starting at Cowbridge Library.

On Wednesday, February 18 at 10.30am, the coffee shop strollers meet at the visitor centre, Cosmeston Country Park, Penarth.

On Thursday, February 19 at 10am, 'To the coast and a windmill (seven miles)' starting at the Plough and Harrow pub car park, Monkash.

## 'Ski trips' with a difference

THE new year saw a number of new members join the Vale Photographic Club - ranging from absolute beginners right through to experienced photographers.

All have been treated to a variety of outstanding talks and exhibitions, which have taken us on a photographic tour of the world.

Award-winning photographer Margaret Salisbury described her recent 'SKI' trips (SKI in this instance standing for 'Spending the Kids' Inheritance'). Each photograph was accompanied by an engaging narrative of the countries she visited, the kindness of the people she met, and the challenges faced in taking her photographs.

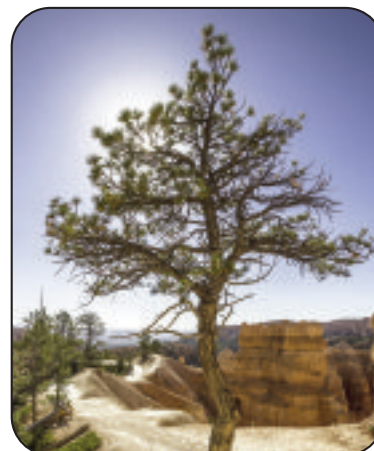
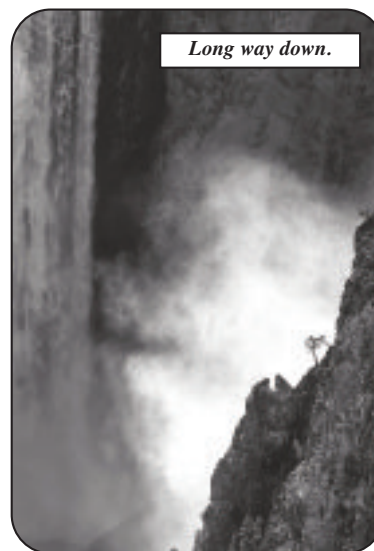
Gareth Martin showed how a single photograph, a simple idea, or even a passing comment could spark an entire body of prints (known as a photographic panel), showing captivating images of well known locations including Margam Woods and the Neath Valley.

Finally, club member Mike Baker took us on a whistle-stop tour of his recent trip to the States.

Mike and his wife travelled through some of the USA's most dramatic landscape including Yellowstone, Zion and Bryce canyons, Denver, Cody, The Valley of the Gods and Route 66.

Highlights for the month ahead include a number of competitions - a great way to challenge yourself and improve your photography skills, and an exploration of the challenges and rewards of street photography.

For further



Pictures by Mike Baker of his recent trip to the United States.

information on the club, which is open to ages 16 and over, visit our website at [www.vale-photographic-club.co.uk](http://www.vale-photographic-club.co.uk), or simply turn up to a club evening - we meet every Friday from September to July at 7.15pm in the Ystradowen village hall.

Andrew Coleman

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## Sony plant gears up for Raspberry demand

PENCOED-based Sony UK Technology Centre (UKTEC) has announced it has more than quadrupled its production of the latest Raspberry Pi, a credit-card-sized single-board computer.

It is increasing production from 18,000 units to 80,000 units per week

to cope with the expected level of demand of the next-generation Raspberry Pi 2, launched world-wide this week.

The Raspberry Pi has been developed by non-profit Raspberry Pi Foundation, and is a credit-card sized computer designed to stimulate young people's interest in computer programming and electronics.

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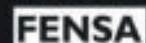
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# Health worker thanked after tending to the injured after collision on M4

**AN off-duty health worker has been thanked for her actions tending the injured at the scene of a serious crash on the M4 on January 24.**

Sue Salvatore-Davies was on her way to the Midlands when she saw the multiple-vehicle collision ahead of her.

The senior healthcare support worker at Morriston Hospital's Ty Olwen hospice immediately pulled over to see what she could do to help.

Sue looked after the injured until the emergency services arrived – remaining on the scene for more than three hours.

The incident, which happened on the motorway near Cardiff, involved a coach and four cars.

It resulted in 28 people being taken to different hospitals – almost half of them going

to Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend.

Fortunately, there were no life-threatening injuries, but there was considerable traffic disruption.

Sue, who was travelling from her Porthcawl home to visit her father in Coventry, said: "I couldn't just drive past knowing people were injured."

"There was a lady in a crushed car. I went straight across to her. She was semi-conscious and I was there with her, along with an off-duty fireman."

"I was trying to get her to do breathing exercises and asking her name to keep her conscious."

"Someone said there were a lot of people on the bus so, once I knew the lady was okay, I went on the bus."

"There were people all over the bus – in the aisles because they had been thrown out of

their seats. They were injured. A lot of them had neck injuries with whiplash. They were all pensioners."

"I wrote down the numbers and did a quick recce of what was wrong."

"I couldn't get to the back of the bus, so I went outside and in again through the emergency door. The people in the back were injured, too."

Drawing on her years of healthcare experience, Sue calmed the injured pensioners, administered basic first aid and got blankets and coats for those who needed them.

When medics arrived, she was able to tell them which passengers were the most seriously injured.

Sue also helped the paramedics get the casualties from the bus using stretchers and chairs. She didn't leave until the last

passenger was safely taken from the coach – more than three hours later.

After that, she continued on her journey to Coventry.

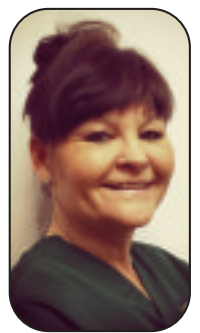
The bus company has since publicly thanked all those who helped in the aftermath of the crash.

Sue, a district healthcare support worker with Marie Curie for 17 years, has been with the hospital palliative care team, based in Ty Olwen, for the last three and a half years.

She said: "The bus company owner rang me up and said he wanted to thank me for what I did for the passengers."

"He said they had been asking him about who the nice lady on the bus was."

"Because I'm in specialist palliative care, I speak to patients and families, so I was able to talk to them and calm them down."



Sue Salvatore-Davies

## 70th anniversary of 'The Welsh Great Escape'

**MARCH will see the 70th anniversary of 'The Welsh Great Escape' from the World War Two German prisoner of war camp at Island Farm in Bridgend.**

To commemorate this, the Hut 9 Preservation Group will be staging a special anniversary event over the weekend of March 7 and 8.

The locked doors of the hut that was the scene of the German Great Escape in March 1945 will be open to the public.

Members of the preservation group, dressed in period uniforms, will give talks and guided tours inside the hut, which is usually closed to visitors. World War Two vehicles will also be on site.

The group has worked hard over the past year to kit out several of the rooms as they would have appeared during the Second World War and previous visitors will be able to see the



extent of these improvements.

A replica guard tower is being constructed, as well as a replica escape tunnel for families to try out their hands at escaping. A free vintage bus will be running between the Science Park and the main entrance, so visitors who have pre-booked should park in the area of the Science Park.

Entry is free but donations on the day to the Hut 9 voluntary group, which is seeking to assure the future of

the site, are welcomed. Full access to the hut is dependent on the weather and restrictions may apply in order to conserve its fabric and contents.

*Spaces on these free tours are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. To reserve a space, please book now. Email bookings are preferred.*

*conservation&design@bridgend.gov.uk. The group's website address is: www.hut9.org.uk JPH*



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# Out and About with The GEM

## Paul Thomas Anderson's *Inherent Vice* is eccentric, rambling and highly enjoyable

**W**HEN news spread that Joaquin Phoenix was set to retire from acting in 2008, it seemed a shame that one of the most talented and watchable actors of his generation was leaving the world of film behind.

It later turned out to be a ruse cooked up to promote mockumentary *I'm Still Here*, which meant that Phoenix wasn't turning his back on his profession.

Since then, Phoenix has put lined Spike Jonze's clever tech-love story *Her*, and found himself Oscar-nominated for his role opposite the later Philip Seymour Hoffman in Paul Thomas Anderson's *The Master*, and he teams up with Anderson again

for Thomas Pynchon's adaptation, *Inherent Vice*.

Phoenix plays private detective Larry 'Doc' Sportello, who gets caught up in the troubles of his ex-girlfriend Shasta (Katherine Waterston). Her love, tycoon Mickey Wolfmann (Eric Roberts), has a wife who may be plotting to commit him to a mental hospital, and when Mickey and Shasta both disappear, Doc has to use his investigative powers to solve the case...

Clocking in at just shy of two and a half hours, Paul Thomas Anderson's stab at bringing Thomas Pynchon's dense and complex *Inherent Vice* to the big screen certainly doesn't rush itself; yet the shaggy dog nature of the story doesn't create a film that is necessarily needing

such a luxurious run time.

Consequently, how you respond to *Inherent Vice* will depend on your feelings towards Anderson as a writer/director, the classy, quality cast and how much of the eccentric nature of the story you can handle.

Being a huge fan of Anderson means that certain elements of the film pass without overt criticism: the slow pace; the unwieldy and unyielding story that takes the phrase 'round the houses' and spins it out of control; the fact that by the time the lights come up you're not really any wiser than you were come the lights going down – but there is much to love about the film.

Anderson's films have always taken a skewed look at society, from *Boogie Nights* 'dark underbelly of the adult film industry, to

*There Will Be Blood*'s searing study of a man driven by greed and guilt, and *Vice*, though not written by him, also fits this template.

It's ostensibly a potboiler, a detective story viewed through the prism of the counter-culture of 1970, but look closer and you'll see the same fault lines you see in the aforementioned *Boogie Nights*; everything is groovy on the surface until you dig deeper and then it's going one way.

It feels like a stoned *Chinatown*, the film having the look of the sun-kissed noirs that popped up in the decade it is set, but the wry humour that runs throughout the film makes it feel like a natural bedfellow to Robert Altman's attempt to take on a literary giant in 1973's *The Long Goodbye*. Altman battled



by  
**GARETH JAMIESON**  
Follow Screen  
Talk on Twitter –  
@GEMScreenTalk

Chandler where Anderson is battling Pynchon (not the first time Anderson has found himself in the same vaulted breath as Altman).

To even take a stab at adapting Pynchon for the screen is a bold one, but one he doesn't make a bad fist of; he

uses voiceover to try and hold things together (though often the voiceover misleads as much as what you see on screen), and languidly takes you through the episodic structure of the story, again even if the source material seems determined to keep you one step behind.

The cast is incredible, with Joaquin Phoenix's bumbling Doc a wonderful creation, part private eye, part cartoon character, and one Phoenix essays with style and subtlety.

It's a performance that needs to be pitched right – play it too comedically and you lose the drama, play it too seriously and you risk missing out on the knowing element of the character, but it's a line Phoenix treads with ease.

Josh Brolin is a perfect foil for him,

playing flat-topped detective Bigfoot with all the disdain and hatred such a character would have for a character like Doc.

Straight-faced though not without humorous embellishment (Bigfoot is a member of the Screen Actor's Guild, and has bit parts in various TV shows and commercials), Brolin is the perfect fit for the character and hits the right notes.

The likes of Katherine Waterstone, Joanna Newsome, Benicio Del Toro and Owen Wilson (to only name four) shine in a starry ensemble that is very Altman-esque.

As touched upon, the true pleasure in *Inherent Vice* is not getting too caught up in proceedings; you can engage in it, but attempting to dig deeper and see what lies under the surface

will only leave you feeling shortchanged.

Try to keep up with it and you'll become frustrated and annoyed; allow it to wash over you and you'll be more than entertained.

**VERDICT** – As likely to satisfy as it is to frustrate, *Inherent Vice* works if you don't find yourself thinking too hard about it. This may seem an odd thing to say, but logic here doesn't come top of the list of priorities.

Instead, Paul Thomas Anderson guides his superb cast through Thomas Pynchon's minefield with style and humour.

*Recommended.*

**SEE THIS IF YOU**

**LIKED:** *Boogie Nights* (1998), *The Long Goodbye* (1973).

## EVENTS AT ST•DONATS



**Cinema: North by Northwest**  
Thu 5 Feb, 7:30pm  
Tickets: £5.00



**Ceilidh: Thingimijigs**  
Sat 7 Feb, 7:30pm  
Tickets: £8.50 / £6.50 conc / £2.50 child



**Cinema: The Hundred Foot Journey**  
Mon 9 Feb, 2:00pm  
Tickets: £4.50 to incl a serving of tea or coffee & biscuits



**Mother's Day: Cream Tea**  
at St Donat's Castle (as seen on Wolf Hall)  
Sun 15 March, 2-5pm. Tickets: £9.95 / £6.75 child



**Concert: Steve Howe**  
Fri 17 Apr, 7:30pm  
Tickets: £21.50 / £20.00 conc

## WHAT'S ON IN YOUR AREA

**Cowbridge library events**  
**FEBRUARY 5:**  
Afternoon Book Group, 2.30pm – 4pm (inaugural meeting); Chatterbooks group visit to illustrator Suzanne Carpenter (4pm – 5pm). Monthly

**Make a movie date at St Donats!**

**IT'S never too late to start your New Year resolution, so why not make attending our weekly cinema screenings one of yours?**

If you missed any recent big box office releases, rest assured you can see them here at St Donats Arts Centre every Monday at 2pm. What's more, the matinee screenings also include a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits on arrival – and all for the fantastic price of £4.50.

For classic cinema, join us every other Thursday at 7.30pm for films such as *Jaws* and Hitchcock's legendary *North by Northwest*; films that you may have seen on TV, but not in all their big screen glory!

To book tickets, visit [www.stdonats.com](http://www.stdonats.com) or call 01446 799100.

book and library group for 9 – 12-year-olds. New members welcome!

February 7: children's quiz; E-book surgery 10am – 12pm, drop-in event.

**Need help on debt?**  
**THE Citizens' Advice Bureau** is now holding fortnightly sessions at KPC in Pyle to give advice and help in dealing with debt, managing a budget and benefits entitlements.

If you would like to book a slot at the sessions, which run on a Thursday between 1pm – 3pm, call Alison on 01656 749219.

The next sessions are February 5 and 19, March 5 and 19, and will run on the first and third Thursday of each month.

**Vale AM's surgery**  
**THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt** will be holding a surgery tomorrow (Friday, February 6) at Trinity Church hall, Trinity Street, Barry from 3pm – 5pm. No appointment necessary.

**Art Society's 'practical session'**  
**ON Thursday, February 12, Cowbridge Art Society** welcomes visual artist, writer and researcher **Dr Jac Saorsa**, who is also the director and senior instructor of the **Broadway Drawing**

**School, Cardiff.**

She will be taking a practical session on 'Drawing from Natural Forms: charcoal and graphite techniques'.

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge, 7pm – 9pm, and visitors and new members are most welcome.

For details of the society's activities, see [www.cowbridgeartsociety.com](http://www.cowbridgeartsociety.com).

**Jumble sale in church**  
**ON Tuesday, February 17 at 2pm, the Crossway Ladies' Circle is holding a nearly new/jumble sale in Crossway Methodist Church, Court Road,**

**Barry.**

Stalls include books, cakes, bric-a-brac and others. Refreshments are available. All proceeds go to the church and charity.

**Tax help**  
**TAXHELP for Older People** will hold free advice surgeries at Bridgend CAB office on Friday, February 13 and Pencoed Library on Wednesday, February 25.

Also at Age Cymru office, Holton Road, Barry on the last Monday of each month (9.30am to noon). To book an appointment, tel 0845 6013321.

## Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

**THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D864.**

● £2,000: 213018.  
● The rollover, which now stands at £3,500 was not won this week.

● £10: 817737, 816448, 231853, 711287, 189072, 275475, 436185, 682988, 851897, 728881, 141391, 622216, 818503, 662448, 164817, 198508, 413840, 636379, 613125, 272.

● £5: 620583, 810937, 850592, 189289, 742725, 870701, 405023, 375550, 334321, 376529, 761290,

487581, 723587, 752725, 495853, 353046, 652428, 473647, 232847, 856337, 238541, 797093, 886186, 490943, 303092, 208584, 297273, 658409, 172223, 642253, 513820, 242405, 214216, 688225, 875712, 495424, 435432, 424982, 672521, 412422, 914928, 800134, 490590, 211329, 519717, 735329, 167441, 346316, 680921, 125660, 640193, 833347, 230055, 744791, 983100, 542336, 888679, 258007, 720, 49.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

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## Time running out to oppose plan

I AM a frequent visitor to Cowbridge and after many years still confess to being captivated by its historic charm; however, I am very concerned about the recent application to build 390 houses at Darren Farm.

I am old enough to remember the frustration for users of the town before the bypass and have noticed a steady increase in congestion in recent years.

Unfortunately, the High Street is not elastic and the capacity is finite.

I do not want to bore your readers with the numerous reasons as to why I oppose this development, although I

would say that I remember a public inquiry in 2003 ruling against development on numerous grounds.

What annoys me is that there seems to be an attempt to short-circuit the LDP, which will be considered by the Welsh Assembly later this year and which affords a comprehensive look at all the infrastructure and housing needs in the Vale. This, in my view, makes it the best overall assessment on where to build.

I would urge your readers to write or email the council regarding their opposition to the development by going to the 'Save Darren Farm' website before it is too late.

Name and address supplied

## Darren Farm: obvious solution

READING through recent stories in The GEM regarding housing development, not to mention your letters pages, it strikes me that the answer to the Vale's housing predicament is an obvious one.

By building homes at Darren Farm, it means that most of the development will take place on one site, a relatively sustainable one, close to roads and houses, rather than in lots of different locations.

Do we really want new housing springing up all across the Vale? Surely not! That would

only spoil what makes the Vale special.

To me, Darren Farm seems to make sense, all the eggs in one basket so to speak. The alternative – hundreds of houses spread all across the Vale in unsustainable, unsightly places – simply doesn't bear thinking about.

Of course, Cowbridge doesn't want Darren Farm! But the alternative... well, it makes me shudder thinking about it. I think those living in villages around Cowbridge would do well to remember that.

People have to live somewhere and this option seems to me to be the logical one.

Mrs S Appleton, Cardiff (formerly of the Vale).

## Jazz group meets

THE next meeting of the Vale Jazz group will be held this week. The group is hoping to organise a jazz festival weekend on June 19-21.

It will be held on Thursday, February 5 at 7pm at Barry Civic Offices.

On the agenda will be a presentation from licensing and an update on the Lottery bid. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

# Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER.

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

## 'Vale needs more coherent planning system' SAYS READER

YOUR correspondence page last week provided further debate about housing development in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Some points were made about rural 'nimbyism'. The arguments in the rural Vale are not about opposing any housing development; we need additional housing in the villages, especially affordable housing as pointed out last week.

The real rural Vale housing issue is about excessive development in a number of villages and in Cowbridge.

When so many communities across the whole Vale, including Barry, face such pressures, we need really good planning systems to ensure proportionate, sustainable development. The LDP is meant to provide a system of strategic planning which enables housing development to be on a sustainable basis in all Vale communities.

Instead, we now see developers sweeping aside this process across the Vale by using planning loopholes.

What we are enduring is an incoherent planning system which is steadily undermining the character of this part of Wales. In reality what is taking place is the annexation of the Vale as an adjunct of a rapidly expanding Cardiff conurbation.

This will be formalised shortly when the Welsh Government forces through the local government

merger of the Vale Council with Cardiff.

A rapidly expanding capital city can only go westwards into the rural Vale – there is no other source of extensive greenfield land to meet its building needs.

What has been lacking in the LDP arguments has been a justification as to why the relentless growth of Cardiff is unstoppable, so necessitating the Welsh Government to insist that the council delivers 11,000 houses in the LDP.

There is a strong case that a coherent strategic planning system would focus on the economic reinvigoration of the South Wales valleys rather than viewing the Vale as an inevitable dormitory for the capital city.

Sue Eldridge in her letter last week made the essential point about bringing people from across the Vale together to resist inappropriate development.

How about starting with a debate before the general election among the Vale of Glamorgan parliamentary candidates about how we create a far more coherent planning system than what is currently unfolding before our eyes?

Paul Jeremy, Ystradowen (Vale Villages Together).  
valevillages.together@gmail.com

## 'I'm Welsh and proud of it!'

I AM writing in response to the recent publicity in The GEM about the Welsh language: I totally agree with the letters in support of the language.

I am Welsh and proud of it (it is my first language and I have always spoken it).

I would also like to add that I am proud of the fact that I have lived very happily in Cowbridge for nearly 40 years.

I do hope that you continue to include the page in our native language for many years to come.

Mair James, Cowbridge.

## Parking ticket

YESTERDAY (Sunday, February 1) 20 cars received parking tickets at Barry Island front.

Young families taking exercise and walking their pets on the beach were targeted by traffic wardens. In these hard times families are looking at things to do, where they don't have to spend copious amounts of money and get their kids out in the fresh air away from Xboxes and other games consoles were targeted for parking in a bay which says taxi rank!

There are no taxis here. I walk my dog every day and especially in the winter something needs to be done about this.

A lot of people can barely feed themselves these days so the cost of a ticket is devastating to young and old.

A Clarke, Barry.

## PLEASE COME TO THE RESCUE!



John Barrowman enjoys attention from rescue pup, Buttons, at the Dogs Trust.

As a patron of Dogs Trust, I'm writing to say a big thank you to players of People's Postcode Lottery for the £175,000 award given to help the charity care for more stray, abandoned and unwanted dogs this year.

Dogs Trust looks after over 17,000 dogs of all shapes and sizes every year across its 21 rehoming centres. The average cost of caring for a dog over the course of a year is around £1,275 and this award will go towards providing vital care.

This can include routine neutering and microchipping, vaccinations and other medical bills along with bedding, toys and the

mileage costs of transporting dogs for rehoming.

As Dogs Trust never puts a healthy dog to sleep, the charity makes additional efforts to provide a comfortable, stimulating environment for the dogs to keep them happy in kennels while they await new homes.

As a dog owner myself, I know how much love and companionship they can provide. If you're missing some love in your life, and think you could have time to offer a home to a dog, please consider a rescue from Dogs Trust.

Your local rehoming centre in Bridgend will be happy to help advise on the best dog for you. John Barrowman (Proud owner of Captain Jack and Harris...oh, and entertainer!)

## Bridgend best fit

I WRITE to say how disappointed I was to hear that the Vale of Glamorgan is not to be allowed to merge with Bridgend.

I love Cardiff as our capital city, but I fear that the population of Cardiff (351,700 at the last census) will dominate the number of councillors, as opposed to those allowed for 127,159 in the Vale unitary authority.

I feel that Bridgend, with 130,000, would have given us a fairer balance of councillors.

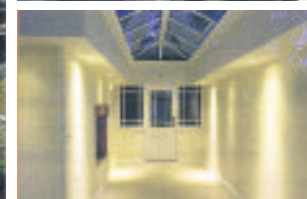
Gwen Baty, Cowbridge.



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# Students display their art exhibits at the Bay

FOUNDATION degree art students from Cardiff and Vale College have organised a 'Combination' exhibition of their work in Cardiff Bay art venue 'Craft In The Bay'.

It features textiles, ceramics and graphic design and will run at Craft In The Bay until March 19.

"This is the biggest exhibition in Craft in the Bay that we have had yet," said Billy Adams, CAVC course leader for the foundation degree in art and ceramics.

"We have 12 students exhibiting in three disciplines – textiles, ceramics and graphic design. The work is based in part in the students' own personal views and work based on Cardiff Bay itself." 'Combination' will run at Craft In The Bay until March 19.

## Charity coffee morning

THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor is hosting a charity coffee morning in aid of the National Coastwatch Institution, Barry Island, on Tuesday, February 10 from 10.30am - 12 noon in the Civic Office. Admission £1.50. All are welcome.



## The Sea View Lads – FACES OLD AND NEW!

THE start of 2015 has seen several old faces out fishing again, along with some new members. Many familiar names appear in recent results, Roger Green, Don Cook, Steve Jones (and his namesake Johnny) have joined the regulars on the podium and long may this continue.

A spokesman reported: "Their rewards have been mixed, with alternating weeks seeing good and poor weights being landed. The introduction of metric

scales for weighing fish has confused some anglers and we are unsure how it will affect the Peterson scale.

"However, our illustrious chair, Steve Doble has managed some good weights including a mighty 0.110kg total catch on the 21st – that's about 4 ounces in old money!"

"The social calendar is already filling up, with names being taken for the Weymouth, Tenerife, Norway, West Wales and mystery trips.

"Meetings are well attended and it has been nice to see some old faces return including Bob Messerschmitt – perhaps Uncle Albert

will follow.

"Due to confusion over the mystery trip dates, the boat trip is now rescheduled for April 4 – should be a great time of year to land some specimens so book a place quickly!"

"At the last meeting, members were treated to AWOL in his most splendid and belligerent form, supported ably by his ally, Tony the Bus; reminding us of the increasingly valuable social support role the club now plays for its older and more vulnerable members.

"Membership fees for the coming year are now due – at just £15, it's surely the best value ticket available for lovers of angling and good craic!"

Shore results for February 1: First, D Whitcombe 3.480 kilo; second, P Seaton, 3.140

kilo; third, P Coles, 1.87 kilo; fourth, K Salah 1.320 kilo; fifth, S Hinder 1.295 kilo; sixth, A Harris 0.590 kilo.

January 21: First, G Spiteri 1.080 kg; second, P Coles 1.005 kg; third, S Doble 0.110 kg.

January 18: First, C Mckinnery 4.350kg; second, M Langford, 3.3660; third, P Crook 3.480; fourth, K Salah 3.170; fifth, D Cook 2.820; sixth, R Green 2.280.

January 11: First, P Coles 0.57 kg; second, A Harris 0.36 kg; third, S Davies 0.26 kg; fourth, M Langford 0.160; fifth, J Jones 0.130.

January 4: First, M Langford 4.92 kg; second, D Cook 2.42 kg; third, R Green 2.16 kg; fourth, S Doble 1.90 kg; fifth, R Bond 1.65 kg; sixth, A Harris 1.42 kg.

## Call to council: SORT OUT ESPLANADE

COMPLAINTS addressed to Coun Anthony Ernest over continuing disruption along the pavement on the esplanade, have been taken up by the Penarth councillor with the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

He reported this week: "Local residents are becoming increasingly concerned at the delays in getting the pavements put to rights for pedestrians, who have found the footpath blocked for the best part of two years or so – while the roadway outside Beachcliffe is continually taken up with

contractors' vans who park there throughout the day, denying those living nearby and visitors from using these all too valuable parking slots in a popular area of the town."

The veteran councillor said that the Vale Council has been asked to intervene to help resolve the situation, "a constant source of annoyance particularly to elderly people living in adjacent Windsor Court".

He added: "Should there be any similar or other problems in Plymouth Ward (South Penarth), I can always be contacted at Penarth 02920 702111, or by email. I will take up these issues on residents' behalf."

## PACT meetings

BUTTRILLS PACT at Barry Town Council Offices, Gladstone Road, Barry today (February 5) at 6.30pm.

ILLTYD PACT at Aberthaw House Hotel, Portkerry Road, Barry on February 23 at 3pm.

STANWELL PACT at The Pod, St Luke's Avenue, Penarth on February 13 at 7pm.

## Glamorgan GEM Food For Thought...

# Who better than a French chef to advise on your Valentine's Day romantic meal?

by Gabrielle Fagan

## The Nosh Pot Kitchen Outside Catering

Enjoy a romantic meal in the comfort of your own home.

Deliveries to Barry & The Vale. Must pre order by 12 February.

## Valentine's Day meal to order - free delivery

### Starter

Red pepper soup (V)

Toast ciabatta with tomato, red onion & pesto oil (V)

### Main

Roast chicken breast wrapped in Parma ham stuffed with feta & sun dried tomato  
Beetroot & caramelized onion tart (V) served with fondant potato, green beans & asparagus

### A trio of dessert

White chocolate & raspberry cheesecake  
Strawberry Eton mess  
Chocolate brownie

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IT'S that special day of the year and you want to treat your loved one to a seductive meal. Who better to advise you than Jean-Christophe Novelli, who has been described by the New York Times as 'the world's sexiest chef'? He devises a menu to appeal to all the senses with special recipes from his new book.

Just talking about food with TV chef, Jean-Christophe Novelli is a sensual experience.

It's not just his dark looks, and chocolate brown eyes, but his passion and enthusiasm as he talks in his sexy, simmering French accent about the importance of "using ze flavours, and experimenting. It should be fun and sooo eezay."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

### Local Government Investigations (Functions of Monitoring Officers and Standards Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2001

The Standards Committee of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, on 31st July 2014, considered allegations that Community Councillor L. Scaglioni of Sully and Lavernock Community Council had failed to comply with Paragraphs 4(b) and 6(1)(a) of the Community Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

The allegations were found to be proven by the Standards Committee, who determined that Councillor Scaglioni be suspended from being a Member of Sully and Lavernock Community Council for a period of six months.

In accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 10 of the Local Government Investigations (Functions of Monitoring Officers and Standards Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2001, Community Councillor Scaglioni appealed to the Adjudication Panel for Wales against the decision of the Standards Committee.

The Appeal was considered by a Tribunal of the Adjudication Panel for Wales on 22nd January 2015.

The Appeal Tribunal decided to overturn the determination of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Standards Committee that Community Councillor Scaglioni had breached the Sully and Lavernock Community Council's Code of Conduct, and the sanction imposed by the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Standards Committee was rescinded.

A copy of the Notice of Decision is available on the Council's website, and the Tribunal's full reasoned decision will be available on the Adjudication Panel's website in due course.

A copy of this report is available for inspection for 21 days from 5th February 2015 as follows:

- On the Vale of Glamorgan Council's website
- The Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU, during normal office hours.

Copies of this report can be provided at a charge of £1.00 per copy.

Ms. D. Marles  
Monitoring Officer  
Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Civic Offices  
Holton Road  
Barry CF63 4RU

5th February 2015



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## Valentine's Day

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# Glamorgan GEM Food For Thought....

## Jean Christophe's food ideas

CONTINUED  
FROM PAGE 25

I guarantee even those with a serious allergy to a hot stove would find it difficult to resist rushing to tangle with some pans and rustling up a feast just to impress him.

So the man who's been described as able to make women 'swoon at the flick of his whisk' seemed the ideal person to turn to for advice on preparing a romantic meal for Valentine's Day.

He says wisely: "Ahh, food can be very sexy but it's definitely not enough on its own to seduce a woman - you need to have that special connection."

"Many men tend to try to over-impress if they cook for a woman and it often ends in disaster. Women also can try too hard to make an over-elaborate dish, which is tiring to prepare and then they are hardly likely to be in the mood for romance after all that effort."

Instead, Jean-Christophe believes simple and easy and bursting with flavour is the recipe for success on Valentine's Day and for the rest of the year also, come to that.

"The secret to any romantic meal is to make

it look as effortless as possible.

Ideally, choose recipes that you can prepare beforehand, so you minimise the amount of time you spend in the kitchen. After all, your attention should be totally on your partner."

The multi-Michelin-starred chef has gathered together a treasure trove of accessible and inspiring recipes in his book, *Everyday Novelli*.

He wants it to be like a friend in the kitchen and "end up covered in butter and flour as you cook from it day after day..." (see, he even manages to make the book itself sound yummy!).

He's been married twice but is now happily settled with Irishwoman Michelle Kennedy, 30, and has dedicated the book to "the woman I love so, so much, forever".

But she may miss out on a romantic Valentine's celebration with him as he usually works on that day.

If he does prepare a cosy-together evening the ingredients are: "Start with champagne (always the best), well chilled and perhaps with a few canapes with smoked salmon, oysters

or some finger food. Definitely nothing too heavy.

"Remember to concentrate on the food your partner likes, and avoid strong food that taints your breath and colours your teeth."

"Romantic ingredients come in many forms, but vanilla and honey have to be some of the most widely recognised ones, along with soft ice cream and chocolates."

Be inspired by Jean-Christophe and win a lover's heart by serving two of his dishes, a 'Cod Brandade Glazed With Red Peppers', and a dessert which can be prepared in advance and is "probably the most sensual recipe in my book" - Iced White Chocolate With Whisky.

*Everyday Novelli* by Jean-Christophe Novelli, published by Headline, £20, is available now.

**COD BRANDADE GLAZED WITH RED PEPPERS**

Serves two.  
(This dish works equally well if you use salmon or haddock). Use a tender fillet of cod. If the fish has the skin on, ask the fishmonger to skin it for you.

When making the mashed potato, I use floury potatoes - ideal for mashing.

Prep time: 15 minutes  
Cooking time: 10 minutes.

Ingredients:  
200g fresh raw cod fillet, skinned and flaked.  
8-10 fresh basil leaves, torn.  
1 garlic clove, peeled and chopped.  
10ml olive oil.  
lemon juice.

100g hot mashed potatoes.  
20ml double cream.  
15g unsalted butter.  
1/2tsp freshly grated nutmeg.

1 red pepper, stalk removed, halved and deseeded.  
1 bay leaf.  
2 sprigs fresh thyme, stalks removed.  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper.  
Pinch caster sugar.  
2tbsp water.

2 slices Cheddar cheese.  
Pinch paprika.  
To serve: 1 baguette.

Preheat the oven to 200C/fan 180C/Gas 4. In a pestle and mortar, pound together the cod, basil, garlic, one teaspoon of the olive oil and a dash of lemon juice until it forms a paste. Alternatively, blitz in a blender or food processor.

Turn into a bowl and add the hot mashed potatoes, cream, butter and nutmeg. Beat to combine and set aside.

Heat the remaining olive oil in an ovenproof frying pan with a lid, and when very hot, add the red pepper, together with the bay leaf, thyme, seasoning and sugar.

Once the peppers have slightly browned, after 3-4 minutes, add the water to create steam. Cover immediately with a lid and put straight into the preheated oven for two minutes.

Remove from the oven and fill each pepper half with the fish paste. Cover with a thin slice of cheese and sprinkle with paprika.  
Return to the hot oven and bake for a further 12 minutes. Preheat the grill until hot. Cut the baguette in half

lengthways and toast under the preheated grill until golden brown.  
Serve the peppers with the toasted baguette.

**ICED WHITE CHOCOLATE WITH WHISKY**

Serves 6-12 (so there's plenty left over for other romantic occasions!).

Prep time: 5 minutes.  
Chill time: one hour.  
Ingredients:  
200g white chocolate, 20ml whisky, chilled.  
180ml double cream, chilled.

Break the chocolate into very small pieces. Put a non-stick saucepan on a low heat until just warm. Remove from the heat.

Add the white chocolate and stir with a wooden spoon so that the chocolate melts very slowly.

Add the whisky and double cream straight from the fridge.

Continue stirring until slight ribbons form.

Pour into an ice-cube tray or ice-lolly moulds and freeze for at least one hour.



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# Sally Holland named new Children's Commissioner

**MINISTER for communities and tackling poverty, Lesley Griffiths, has announced the appointment of Professor Sally Holland as the new Children's Commissioner for Wales.**

She is currently a professor at the School of Social Sciences at Cardiff University, and director and founder of CASCADE Children's Social Care Research Centre.

Prof Holland is internationally acclaimed for enabling children and young people to represent their own views through active participation in her research. Her areas of expertise include children's rights, Welsh children's views about citizenship and identity, looked after children, child protection and adoption.

She has also campaigned for, and researched, the needs and rights of children and will be taking over from outgoing commissioner, Keith Towler, whose seven year tenure will shortly come to an end.

The Deputy Children's Commissioner, Eleri Thomas, will assume the functions of the Children's Commissioner until Sally Holland takes up the role in April, ensuring continuity of service for children and young people in Wales.

Announcing the appointment, Lesley Griffiths AM, said: "As a Government, we want to ensure Wales is a place where children's rights are a reality, and where their voices are heard loud and clear."

"I am delighted Professor Sally Holland will be taking up the position as the next Children's Commissioner for Wales and

warmly welcome her to this important role. I am confident her range of experience in social work and children's rights, and her proven commitment to empowering children and young people, will make her a strong ambassador on their behalf.

"I would also like to express my sincere thanks to the outgoing commissioner, Keith Towler, for his commitment and achievements during his seven year term."

Sally Holland, said: "I am delighted and honoured to have been appointed to be the next

Children's Commissioner for Wales."

"I am proud of Wales' history of promoting children's and young people's rights and I will work hard to ensure that this continues and strengthens, building on the excellent work of the first two commissioners."

"Children and young people face new opportunities and challenges in contemporary society. I will work with the children and young people of Wales to ensure that their rights are safeguarded and promoted."

## Support for Macmillan more vital than ever

**LAST year was a record-breaking one for Macmillan Cancer Support in Wales, with cancer diagnosis on the increase, and more people living with, and beyond cancer than ever before. Public support for fundraising is more vital now, than ever.**

A spokeswoman said: "During 2014, our fantastic supporters in Wales did all sorts of events, including, coffee mornings, auctions, variety nights and even white collar boxing, all of which helped us achieve our best ever year, but that doesn't mean we don't need your help in 2015 and beyond."

"Macmillan Cancer Support is entirely funded by donations, without which we simply could not give the invaluable support and services to those affected by cancer, in Wales. We are always looking to expand our services in

Wales, and whether it's expanding our team of professionals or providing advice leaflets, we need your help."

"In 2013, we invested over £3.2 million in cancer services in Wales – this figure rises annually. We know that by 2030, it is expected that over a quarter of a million people in Wales will be living with and beyond cancer, which equates to 90,000 in south east and mid Wales, and to put that into perspective, that number of people would fill the Millennium Stadium three times."

She added: "We want to thank each and every person and business who has supported Macmillan Cancer Support in 2014. Whether you donate at a till point in your local store, or organise a cappuccino-filled coffee morning, we thank you."

If you want to get involved, contact the Macmillan Fundraising Support Centre on 0300 1000 200 or email [fundraising@macmillan.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@macmillan.org.uk).



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# Sunkissed is celebrating 10 years of making Vale ladies feel good!



A Llantwit Major beauty salon is planning to make February a special month as it celebrates its 10th anniversary.

It was 10 years ago this month that Vicki Wiggins bought a small tanning salon. It was something that Vicki had always wanted to do and thought that the premises had great potential.

In 10 years, what was once just a tanning business with one small beauty room, has grown rapidly.

Vicki told The GEM: "Our clients' needs and requirements were always at the forefront of our minds and, as a result, we now have four lovely treatment rooms and a relaxation area".

Learning what clients valued and appreciated was key and, within 12 months of taking over, Vicki took on the Dermalogica range of skin products – a quality range that is a market leader in the skin care industry.

Staff who get on well with customers and who become part of the family are important, and two of the Sunkissed team, Jo James and Sara Harris, have been there from day one. Billie and Danika have joined us in more recent years and have complimented our team.

Loyal staff, combined with loyal customers, have enabled Sunkissed to thrive, ride out the recession, and keep adding extra treatments along the way.

Vicki said: "One of our treatment rooms is a double room, ideal for being pampered together with a loved one or friend."

"We also have a cosy relaxation area that is perfect for pamper parties, relaxing on your own or enjoying a girly chat with friends over a glass of bubbly."

"After leaving the tranquil section you enter into the heart of Sunkissed, where you will find two nail stations, client seating, sunbeds coupled with laughter, chatter and fun".

One of the things that makes Vicki happiest are the Facebook posts that show that clients value that fun atmosphere just as much as the staff do.

Sunkissed is far more than a tanning salon, and it offers a full range of treatments, including holistic, reflexology, aromatherapy and Indian head massage to name just a few.

Vicki also invested in a new State of the art Dermaco machine last summer, which means they offer microdermabrasion, non-surgical face lifts, and light therapy which dramatically reduces fine lines and wrinkles and helps with acne scarring and other skin conditions.



## FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, Sunkissed will be hosting a party for clients on Wednesday, February 11, from 5.30pm until late.

During the evening, there will be complimentary treatments, raffles and prize draws.

Also, throughout February, special offers will be advertised in the salon and on its Facebook page.

For more details, visit Sunkissed on its Facebook page or on [www.sunkissedbeautyandtanning.co.uk](http://www.sunkissedbeautyandtanning.co.uk)

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**SEFYDLWYD** Menter Bro Morgannwg yn 2013, Sgyda'r nod o gynyddu'r defnydd o'r Gymraeg ar lefel gymunedol ym Mro Morgannwg.

Rydym yn falch iawn i barhau â'r bartneriaeth newydd yma gyda'r Glamorgan GEM, ac fe fyddwn yn cydlynu tudalennau misol Cymraeg yn y papur, fydd yn cael ei gyhoeddi ar ddydd Iau cyntaf pob mis.

**MENTER** Bro Morgannwg was established in 2013, with the aim of increasing the use of the Welsh language on a community level in the Vale of Glamorgan.

We are very pleased to be continuing our new partnership with the Glamorgan GEM, and we will be co-ordinating Welsh language pages in the paper, which will be published on the first Thursday of every month.

## GOFAL GWYLLIAU CYFRWNG CYMRAEG

**RYDYM** yn falch iawn i gyhoeddi bod y Fenter wedi derbyn cyllid i sefydlu Cynllun Gofal Gwylliau Cyfrwng Cymraeg newydd sbon ym Mro Morgannwg.

Gan ddechrau yn hanner tymor Chwefror 2015, fe fydd y gwasanaeth yn cael ei gynnal yn ystod pob gwylliau ysgol (ag eithrio'r Nadolig), o ddydd Llun i ddydd Gwener, 8.30am – 5.30pm.

Caiff ei gynnal yn Ysgol Nant Talwg, ond mae'n agored i holl blant ysgolion cynradd Cymraeg Bro Morgannwg.

Bydd hwn yn wasanaeth allweddol o bwysig i rieni sydd yn gorffod parhau i weithio yn ystod cyfnodau o wyliau ysgol, a gyda dros 90% o ddisgyblion ysgolion Cymraeg y Sir yn dod o gartrefi di-Gymraeg, bydd hefyd yn cynnig cyfleoedd hollbwysig i'r plant i barhau i ddefnyddio ac ymarfer eu Cymraeg y tu allan i dymor ysgol.

Rydym wedi llunio amserlen lawn o weithgareddau ar gyfer hanner tymor Chwefror – gan gynnwys Gweithdy Crefftiau, Gemau Bwrdd, Reptiliaid, Ceginio, Gweithdy Chwaraeon yr Urdd, Trip i'r Sinema, Gweithdy Dawns, Gemau Parasiwt, Parti Pitsa, Disco a llawer mwy!

Os hoffech chi fwy o wybodaeth, neu i gofrestru eich plentyn ar gyfer y Cynllun Gofal, cysylltwch â ni: [ffion@menterbromorgannwg.org](mailto:ffion@menterbromorgannwg.org) / 029 20689888.

Os ydych yn rieni sy'n gweithio, fe allwch fod â'r hawl i gael Credyd Treth i deuluoedd sy'n gweithio, a hawlio hyd at 80% o'ch costau gofal plant yn ôl drwy'r elfen Credyd Treth Gofal Plant. Am fwy o wybodaeth ynglŷn â hyn ffoniwch 0345 300 3900 am ddim.

## Gwersi Nofio'r Urdd

**RYDYM** yn rhedeg gwersi noffio mewn pedwar lleoliad gwahanol ar draws Y Fro gan gynnwys Canolfan Hamdden Penarth, Coleg yr Iwerydd, Canolfan Hebron a Chanolfan Hamdden Y Barri.

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## Cyflwyno Swyddog Lled Ffurfiol newydd Canolfan Cymraeg i Oedolion Caerdydd a'r Fro

**HELO**, fy enw i yw Glyn Wise, Swyddog Lled Ffurfiol newydd Canolfan Cymraeg i Oedolion Caerdydd a'r Fro.

Dyma fy mlwyddyn gyntaf yn y swydd ond mae rhaid i mi gyfaddef, rwy'n ei charu yn barod. Mae'r Gymraeg yn golygu cymaint i fi, mae'n iaith gyfoethog llawn urddas gyda llenyddiaeth anhygoel i'w chlodfori.

Mae'r iaith yn rhan ohonaf, yn fy ngwneud yn Gymro a mae'r swydd yn fy switio i'r dim. Ynghlwm â hyn, rwy'n dysgu Cymraeg i oedolion fel tiwtor yn stiadiwm pêl droed Dinas Caerdydd sy'n wych!

Ond, yn gyntaf mae'n bwysig fy mod yn cyflwyno fy hunan. Rwy'n wreiddiol o Flaenau Ffestiniog ond nawr rwy'n byw yng Nghaerdydd ers 8 mlynedd. Ni ddychmygais y byddwn yn byw yn y ddinas fawr ddrwg pan oeddwn yn blentyn.

Daeth y dyhead am newid pan oeddwn yn y 6ed dosbarth. Wrth astudio'r Tŵr gan Gwenlyn Parry, sylweddolais fod bywyd gyda rhestr fawr o



Glyn Wise

oblygiadau - gwneud yn dda yn yr ysgol, mynd i'r Brifysgol, ennill swydd, priodi, cael plant, marw.

Roedd gen i ofn hynny. Felly, cymerais i cyfle i fynychu y Tri Big Brother.

Agorodd y sioe gymaint o gyfleoedd i ledanu fy Nymreictod a fy ngwladgarwch i bobl na fyddai erioed yn crybwyll pwysigrwydd yr iaith a'i diwylliant. Roedd yn braf gweld y Gymraeg yn cael ei defnyddio ar Sianeli Saesneg a phapurau Llundain yn trafod yr iaith.

Roedd hynny'n wych. Yna, es ymlaen i weithio gyda Bwrdd Yr Iaith i wneud taith ysgolion yn p w y s l e i s i o p w y s i g r w y d d d n Yn y cyfamser roeddwn

yn cyflwyno Planed Plant ar S4C, BBC Radio Cymru a gweithio mewn clybiau nos led Prydain.

Fe wnes i ddysgu Cymraeg i feddwon ymhob clwb nos, hyd yn oed Ayre yn yr Alban, ble doedd y pobl ddim yn deall fy Saesneg gyda'n acen heb sôn am y Gymraeg! Roedd gweithio yn y cyfryngau'n wych, ond ymhenn dwy flynedd, teimlais fy mod wedi gwneud popeth oeddwn eisiau. Edrychais am sielens newydd.

Wrth gwyrddo maes yr Eisteddfod yn 2008, gwelais stondin Prifysgol Caerdydd. Yn ffodus iawn, cefail le i astudio BA yn y Gymraeg, y dewis gorau erioed!

wych! O astudio'r Mabinogi, i weithiau a bywyd Saunders Lewis, hanes y ddrama Gymraeg, nofealu modern a'r clysuron i ysgrifennu creadigol. Roedd y 3 mlynedd yn anhygoel ac enillais 2.1 ar ben hynny!

Yn dilyn graddio cefais 2 flynedd o weithio fel athro iaith gyntaf Gymraeg. Ond, nid oedd addysg yn yr hyn yr oeddwn yn disgwyl (a fe wneud ni gadw hi ar hynny!). Ond nawr rydw i wedi glanio ar fy nhraed ac edrychaf ymlaen i gydweithio a chwrdd gyda phawb yn y gweithgareddau Cymraeg yng Nghaerdydd a'r Fro.

Coffiwch bydd y cwrs Sadwrn nesaf i ddysgwyr yn cael ei gynnal ar y 14eg o Chwefror yn y Bontfaen, 4 awr o ddysgu Cymraeg a gweithgaredd ar y diwedd. Ewch i'r wefan i archebu'ch lle, byddwn i yno i'ch croesawu chi - <https://welshforadults.caerdiff.ac.uk/learning/weekend-courses/cowbridge-saturday-course>.

Glyn Wise

## Angharad

**WEL!** Pwy feddylie!

Wedi cyhoeddi tudalennau Cymraeg cyntaf y Gem gan gynnwys fy nghlofn i yn canmol i'r cymylau cymuned fechan glos gyfeillgar y Bontfaen, roedd hi'n dipyn o ysgytwad dair wythnos yn diweddarach i fod yn croesawu criw 'Newyddion' i'r tŷ i ymateb i'r llythyrwr di-enw a ddywedodd bod y Bontfaen yn der lwyddiannus oherwydd nad oedd Cymraeg yno!

Coffiwch, roeddwn i'n falch i gael y cyfle i gannol papur Y GEM am ei weledigaeth a'r agwedd bositif dros yr iaith ac am ymateb fel y gwnaethpwyd wrth wneud yn glir nad oedd cefnogaeth i sylwadau'r llythyrwr gan y papur.

Sgw'n i os yw'r llythyrwr anhysbys yn siopa yn Waitrose? Mae gen i syniad rywsut ei fod e/hi y teip fyddai falch o arddel siop mor chwaethus yn y dre heb sylweddoli cymaint mae'r siop yma'n gyfrannu yn lleol gan gynnwys dangos parch mawr i'r Gymraeg.

Mae Waitrose fel rhan o grwp John Lewis ar flaen y gad wrth sicrhau hawliau teg i'w staff a'r mis yma fe fydd pob un o'r staff yn rhannu £22 miliwn ychwanegol o dâl sy'n dal i weld 'oasis' o newydd am daliadau gwyliau.

Ond yn yr un mor bwysig yw nod y siop i ymddwyn mewn mod sy'n cymryd gofynion y



gymuned leol i ystyriaeth. Pan agorodd John Lewis siop yng nghanol Caerdydd, roedd angen tua mil o weithwyr arnynt. Fel rhan o'i strategaeth busnes ni chlywyd yr un egsus trist bod angen cyflogi o ochr arall clawdd offa er mwyn cael y bobl iawn – aethpwyd ati'n fwrriadol i gyflogi a hyfforddi pobl leol.

Rhoddydd lle amlwg i ddwyieithrwydd – nid dim ond yn y manau cyhoeddus ond yn y swyddfeidd tu cefn hefyd. Nid sioe o gefnogi Cymreictod oedd hyn, ond rhan o ethos bwriadol.

Ac os yw cwmni llewyrchus fel hyn yn gallu dangos y fath barch, gan gofio mai busnes i wneud elw yn y pendraw yw hanfod siop, onid yw hi'n syfrdanol bod rhai sy'n dal i weld 'oasis' o Seisnigrwydd yn gaffaeliad, yn hytrach na gallu agor eu llygaid i weld mai cyfoethogi bywyd mae'r iaith Gymraeg yn ei wneud.

## MERCHED Y WAWR

**MAE** Merched y Wawr wedi derbyn cyllid o gronfa Bwrw Mlaen Llywodraeth Cymru i gydlyn cyfres o ddigwyddiadau i hyrwyddo dyfeisgarwch a Chymreictod ymysg merched, ac fe fydd un o'r digwyddiadau hynny yn digwydd yma ym Mro Morgannwg! Fe'i gynhelir yng Ngwesty'r Bear y Bontfaen, ar Ddydd Mercher 25ain o Fawrth 2015.

Croeso cynnes i unrhyw fferch sy'n siarad Cymraeg neu yn ddysgwraig ddod i glywed am broffidiadau eraill a mwynhau. Cynhelir nifer o weithgareddau drwy gydol y diwrnod, gan gynnwys sesiwn Ffotograffiaeth, Bylliau a mwy gan Llinos Lanini a Choginio a busnes 'Pumpkin Patch' gyda Lisa Fearn yn y bore (10.00 – 12.00 o'r gloch), a Gosod Blodau gydag Ann Mears, a sesiwn yn trafod Bywyd Artist gyda Rhiannon Roberts yn y prynhawn (1.00 – 3.00 o'r gloch).

Ni ddarperir cinio na phaned prynhawn ond mae gweddill y diwrnod yn rhad ac am ddim, diolch i nawdd gan Grant 'Bwrw Mlaen' Llywodraeth Cymru. Bydd modd archebu cinio yn y gwesty ar ôl cyrraedd yn y bore os dymunwch. Diolch hefyd i Menter a Busnes am eu cydwethrediad.

Rhaid cofrestru ymlaen llaw trwy ffonio swyddfa Merched y Wawr 01970 611 661, e-bost [swyddfa@merchedywawr.com](mailto:swyddfa@merchedywawr.com) neu bostio at Swyddfa Merched y Wawr, Stryd yr Efail, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 1JH erbyn 18 Mawrth 2015.

## Cynnydd o 100% yng nghyllideb Menter Bro Morgannwg

**AR** Ionawr 9fed, fe gyhoeddodd Prif Weinidog Cymru bod £3.6 miliwn o gymorth ariannol ychwanegol ar gyfer hybu'r Gymraeg ar draws Cymru yn ystod 2015-16. Bydd 34 o sefydliadau yn elwa o'r pecyn hwn, gyda phob un o'r Mentrau Iaith yn derbyn lleiafswm o £60,000 yr un o gyllid craidd.

Mae hyn yn newyddion da iawn i Fenter Bro Morgannwg, ac yn golygu bod incwm y Fenter oddi wrth Llywodraeth Cymru yn dyblu yn 2015-16. Bydd hyn yn ein galluogi i gynyddu'r nifer o weithgareddau gallwn eu trefnu yn y Sir fydd yn arwain at gynyddu'r defnydd cymunedol o'r Gymraeg ym Mro Morgannwg.

Dyweddodd y Prif Weinidog: "Dyma becyn

sylweddol o gymorth ariannol a fydd yn helpu â'r gwaith o hybu'r Gymraeg mewn trefi a chymunedau ar draws Cymru yn ystod 2015-16. Mae'r Llywodraeth yn awyddus i sicrhau iaith fyw sy'n fyddu a bydd yr arian hwn yn ein helpu i gyflawni'r ymrwymiadau sydd wrth wraidd Bwrw Mlaen."

"Hoffem annog pobl i fod â'r hyder i ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg yn eu bywydau bob dydd ac o fewn eu cymunedau lleol. Bydd y pecyn hwn o arian yn ein helpu i gyflawni hyn. Bydd yn ei gwneud hi'n bosibl i ddatblygu prosiectau newydd, gwahanol a chyffrous sy'n cefnogi gweithgareddau Cymraeg ar lawr gwlad ac yn creu rhagor o gyfleoedd."

Ewch i'n gwefan ([www.menterbromorgannwg.org](http://www.menterbromorgannwg.org)) i weld newyddion diweddaraf y Fenter, neu dilynwch Menter Bro Morgannwg ar Twitter a Facebook.

Twitter: @MIBroMorgannwg • Facebook: Menter Bro Morgannwg

Ebost: [ffion@menterbromorgannwg.org](mailto:ffion@menterbromorgannwg.org) • Ffôn: (029) 20689888 • [www.menterbromorgannwg.org](http://www.menterbromorgannwg.org)





# Cyflwynwraig o'r Barri yn Ennill Pryd o Sêr!

YNG nghanol mis Ionawr, fe ddarlledwyd y gyfres ddiweddaraf o Pryd o Sêr ar S4C. Yn cystadlu eleni roedd yr actores Rhian Jones, y cyflwynwraig Llinos Lee, Morgan Jones, John Hardy a Meinir Howells, yr athletwr Aled Siôn Davies, cyfarwyddwr cerdd Only Men Aloud Tim Rhys-Evans a'r gantores Toni Carroll.

Y cogydd Dudley Newbery a'r gyflwynwraig Emma Walford oedd wrth y llyw ac yn gosod cyfres o heriau i'r sêr i wthio eu sgiliau ceginio, a'u hamynedd, i'r eithaf.

Rhannwyd yr enwogion i ddau dim – glas ac oren – ac yn ystod y gyfres bu'n rhaid iddynt baratoi cwrs cyntaf cywrair, gwneud pob math o fara, ceginio cigoedd gwahanol, paratoi deitholiad o bwinau blasus a bwydo 130 o blant a rhieni llwglyd Cór Ieuencid Môn.

Erbyn y rhaglen derfynol, bu'n rhaid i'r sêr goginio pryd tri chwrs i safon ty bwyta seren Michelin ar gyfer dros 80 o westeion arbennig - a dros eu hamner yn gynhyrchwyr bwyd llwyddiannus.

Ar ben hynny, ymlith y gwsteion hefyd roedd Aelodau Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, a dau gogydd o fri; Aled Williams un o enillywyr cystadleuaeth The Great British Menu,



Cyflwynwraig o'r Barri yn ennill 'Pryd o Sêr'.

a Mark Threadgill, prif gogydd gwste ysbennedd Portmeirion.

Wedi cyfiri holl bwyntiau'r rownd derfynol at ei gilydd, cyhoeddwyd mai'r tîm glas oedd yn fuddugol, ac fe wobrwydd Llinos Lee yn 'Brif Gogydd' y gyfres!

Merch o'r Barri yw Llinos – yn gyn-ddisgybl Ysgol Sant Baruc – ac fe'i gwelwch hi ar y teledu'n aml fel cyflwynwraig y rhaglen 'Heno'. Wrth sôn am ei phrofiadau'n cystadlu ar Pryd o Sêr eleni, dywedodd Llinos mai dyna oedd "wythnos caletu fy mywyd erioed", ond ei bod wir wedi mwynhau y profiad.

Longyfarchiadau mawr i ti! Mae 'Pryd o Sêr' ar gael i'w wyllo eto ar S4C Clic tan Chwefror 15fed-22ain.

## Sêr gan Eiry Palfrey Aquarius



Eiry Palfrey

OS cawsoc eich geni rhwng Ionawr 21ain a Chwefror 19eg rydych chi'n perthyn i'r arwydd Aquarius; arwydd daer dan reolaeth y planed orio

Wranws. Rydych felly yn berson gwreiddiol, annibynnol, 'gwahanol', ac yn un sy'n mwynhau rhyddid, er y gallwch chi fod yn rebel croes ac anodd ar adegau. Mae gyda chi deimladau cryf dros neu yn erbyn pob peth, ac mae hynny'n eich gwneud i ymddangos yn styfnig weithiau.

Mae pethau newydd gwahanol bob amser yn apelio atoch chi. Mae'n haws i chi garu llawer o bobl nag un person, a gall hynny eich gwneud i ymddangos yn oeraidd a phell.

Does dim dal beth wneuch chi nesa, rydych chi'n berson yn llawn cywreirwdd ac yn glyfar tu hwnt. Eich nod yw myneig'ch gwybodaeth.

Rydych chi'n duoddol i ddelfrydu pob peth. Mae'n gas gyda chi gaeithiwd, mae rhyddid yn holl bwysig i chi, ac fe fyynnwch chi gael eich rhyddid a'ch ffordd eich hunan bob amser.

Rydych chi'n caru dynoliaeth, ac mae'ch cyfeillion yn bwysig iawn i chi.

Rydych chi'n ffrind triw a fyddlon ond cewch eich brifo i'r byw os byddai cyfaill yn eich gadael i lawr.

Aquariaid enwog: Barry Humphreys (Edna Everage), Syr Geraint Evans, Rupert Moon, Syr Wynff Elis-Owen, Rachel Thomas, Germaine Greer.



©Suzanne Carpenter

## BLWYDDYN NEWYDD YN YSGOL IOLO MORGANWGW

BU'N gychwyn cyffrous i'r flwyddyn newydd yn Ysgol Iolo Morganwg. Cawsom ymweliad gan y Fari Lwyd a ddaeth i'n hatgoffa o hen draddodiad Gymreig a rhan bwysig o'n diwylliant yma yng Nghymru. Cafodd groeso mawr i'n gwasanaeth ac fe fu canu hwyliog i'w chydarch.

Mae'r Clwb Dawnsio Gwerin wedi bod yn cwrdd yn wythnosol ac maent yn ymarfer yn ddiwyd ar gyfer yr Eisteddfod. Da gweld criw o blant yn mynychu'r sesiynau dawnsio – cadw'n heini ac yn mwynhau ar yr un pryd.

Lawnsiwyd ein cynllun Mëts Mas Tu Fas gyda swyddogion o flwyddyn 5 a 6 yn cynorthwyo plant yn ystod amser chwarae a chinio. Cânt wisgo capiau pêl fas glas fel bob pawb yn gwybod at bwy i droi am gyngor, cwmni neu hwyli.

Maent hefyd yn gyfrwng ardderchog i hyrwyddo'r ddeffnydd o'r iaith Gymraeg ar yr iard ac i annog chwarae gemau trwy'r Gymraeg.

Bu'r Llysgenhaden yn cwrdd er mwyn trafod



cychwyn system bydis darllen. Y bwriad yw y bydd partneriaid o flwyddyn 5 a 6 yn darllen gyda disgyblion blwyddyn 2 a 3. Y nod fydd annog darllen am fwyndad a thrafodaeth o'r storiâu, y cymeriadau a'r themâu. Cyfle gwyh i ddatblygu sgiliau darllen a llafar!

## Llais Lleol – Rhodri Ogwen

MAE Rhodri Ogwen yn wyneb cyfarwydd sydd wedi gwethio'n helaeth i S4C ac i Sky yn Llundain, ond erbyn hyn mae'n byw a'n gweithio yn nghanol y Dwyrain Canol!

YM mha ardal o'r Fro gafoch chi eich geni a'ch magu?

Ges i ngeni yng Nghaerdydd yn Ysbyty Dewi Sant a wedyn byw yn Radyr nes yn bedair ond wedyn symudodd y teulu i'r Barri. Symudon ni i ardal y Knap lawr wrth lan y môr tu nôl i Bindles.

Roedd yn ardal hyfryd i dyfu fyny. Ma mam a dad yn dal i fyw yn y Barri ond wedi symud i Ynys Y Barri gyda Gavin a Stacey.

Beth ydych chi atgofon am eich plentyndod yn Y Fro?

Roedd y Fro yn hyfryd o le i dyfu fyny. Chwarae pêl droed yn Romilly Park, archwilio a gwersylla ym Mharc Portcheri. Bob haf bydden i'n a' ffrindie yn y Pwll Agored lawr yn y Knap bob dydd.

Pan es i'r coleg yng Nghaerdydd fe ddes i nôl i'r pwll yn yr haf i weithio fel 'lifeguard'. Dwi ddim yn cofio treulio unrhyw amser tu fewn yn y ty. Ar ôl dod ôl o'r ysgol fydd pawb fel tase'n nhw'n ymgynnyll tu allan i fy nhŷ i ac wedyn yn mynd allan i chwarae.

Dwi'n cofio fe i'le diogel iawn i dyfu fyny ac roedd byw ond taillad carreg o'r môr yn hyfryd o beth.

Rydych chi'n gyn-ddisgybl Ysgol Sant Baruc yn y Barri – pa athro / athrawes gafodd y mwya' o ddylanwad arnoch?

Ma hwn yn gwestiwn anodd oherwydd dwi isie duedd pawb. Yr athrawes gynta dwi'n cofio ydy Eleri Hourahane neu Miss Davies.

Roedd hi'n hyfryd ac yn barod i roi cwtsh i fi pan ro'n i bach yn drist yn ceisio ymgartrefi yn fy ysgol newydd. Roedd hi'n aelod o'r run capel, Tabernacl yn y Barri hefyd, ac felly fe fyddde'n i'n ei gweld yn hwyrach yn fy mywyd hyfryd.

Ar ôl Coed yr Odyn a Saint Francis, ymlaen i St Baruc. Roedd Elwyn Richards yn brifathro gwyh ac yn un da am ddisgyblaeth.

Roedd Freda Evans yn llawn egni fel athrawes ac yn sicr fe ddysges i lot wrthi hi ac o'r ochr chwaraeon a dawnsio Gwerin. Goronwy Jones. Ma meddwl am bob un o'r bobl yma yn dod nôl ag atgofion hyfryd i mi.

Dweddych ychydig wrthom am ble rydych chi'n byw a'n gweithio nawr.

Dwi'n byw ac yn gweithio yn Qatar, sef gwlad cyfoethoca'r byd. Dwi yng nghanol y Dwyrain Canol. Dwi'n gweithio ym myd teledu ac yn mwynhau'r sialens wrth i'r wlad baratoi ar gyfer cwpan Pêl Droed y Byd yn 2022.

Pa mor aml fyddwch chi'n dod nôl gartref i Gymru?

Fe fyddai nôl yng Nghymru rhyw dair/bedair gwaith i flwyddyn ac yn dod a fy merch Jodie lawr gyda fi. Ma Jodie yn chwech nawr ac wrth ei bodd ar Ynys y Barri gyda a mam a dad a pan fyddwn ni gyd yn mynd lawr i Drefdraeth, yn Sir Benfro.

Mae bwriad i ail-fuddsoddi yn Ffair Ynys y Barri. Oes gennyh chi atgofion o fynd i'r Ffair pan oeddech yn blentyn, a gyda phwy oeddech chi'n mynd?

Wel, dwi'n cofio treulio oriau yn y ffair bob penwythnos yn enwedig pan oeddw'n yn 16eg. Ond roeddwn hefyd yn treulio lot o amser yn Butlins. Fues i'n gweithio yno ac yn ffrindie gyda teulu Billy Butlin felly roeddw'n i a fy chwaer yn derbyn triniaeth



arbenig ar Ynys Y Barri ac yn mwynhau mynd ar y 'reids' am ddim.

Beth ydy eich diddordebau?

Dwi wrth fy modd ag unrhyw math o chwaraeon. Fel mae'n digwydd fyddai allan mewn kayak fory oherwydd mae môr yn fy amgylchynu fi yma yn Qatar. Dwi'n licio chwarae golff a sgio. Dwi yn hoff iawn o fy mwyd ac wrth fy modd yn mynd allan i fwyta.

Beth ydy eich uchelgais am y ddeng mlynedd nesaf?

Dwi ishe bod mor iach ag y gallai er mwyn i fi allu mwynhau amser gyda fy merch. Dwi'n lwcus ac wedi teithio yn eang felly dwi'n hapus yn byw mewn lle hyfryd fel Qatar. Mae fy merch yn Llundain a dwi'n feindio hi'n anodd bod mor bell oddi wrthi felly bob tro dwi'n cal gwylied dwi eisie treulio amser gyda Jodie.

Gyda pwy fasedd chi'n hoffi cael pryd o fydd?

Yn syml, fy merch Jodie. Efallai mai dim ond y gw Jodie ond mae hi gynnaint o hwyli. Gyda hi dwi hapus. Oherwydd fy swydd yn y cyfryngau dwi wedi bod yn lwcus i rannu bwrdd gyda nifer o enwogion mawr y byd.

Dim ond wythnos diwetha fues i'n mwynhau noson gyda Ernie Els o fydd golf – dyn dwi wedi ei edmygu ers blyneddau.

Pwy ydych chi'n eu hedmygu?

Mam a dad yn fyw na neb.

Beth ydy eich gwylliaid delfryddol?

Mae lle gennyf yn Sbaen. Dwi wrth fy modd yno. Neu Trefdraeth yn Sir Benfro.

Lle ydych chi hoff dafarn neu fwty yn y Fro?

Heb os dwi'n licio mynd i El Puerto's ym Mhenarth. Ma Tanny y perchennog, sef mab y diweddar Martinez, yn fachan sbesial ac yn edrych ar ôl ei gwsmeriaid yn arbennig ac ma'r bwyd yn syml ond o safon uchel.

## DWYNWEN -O-GRAM!

LLONGYFARCHI ADAU mawr i

M i r a n d a

Emmerson o'r

Barri, enillydd ein

cystadleuaeth

Dwynwen-o-Gram

eleni, gyda diolch

hefyd i'w gŵr Chris

am ei henwebu.

Gobeithio y cafoch chi

Ddiwrnod Santes

Dwynwen hapus iawn!



## Mynd am dro yn y Fro

Hanes yr Arth?

PE baech wedi arfer â gyrru o Gaerdydd i Bentyrch – er mwyn gwrando ar gyn-gystadleuwyd rhaglen realiti yn canu er enghraifft, neu i geisio dod o hyd i'r defaid sydd yn ôl pob sôn yn crwydro'r mynydd agos – fe ddowch chi yn gyntaf i'r garth; i waelod y garth i ddwedd y gwir sydd wrth gwrs wrth ymyl pentref Gwaelod-y-Garth.

Dylai'r enw yna ganu cloch, ac yn wir yn y cyd-destun hwnnw dydy'r term 'garth' ddim yn teimlo'n estron iawn, hyd yn oed i bobl nad sydd yn byw yn ardal Penarth ym Mro Morgannwg.

Dydych i heb ddod o hyd i'r unie le fy hunan, ond dychmygaf fod

"mynydd" chwedlonol Pentrych yn dod i ben wrth ddiwyb y garth, neu ben y garth fel petai.

A thrwy hynny fel gwelwch chi nawr yn ddi-os tarddiad yr enw Penarth, neu Pen-y-garth fel yr amlygir gan yr Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg leol o'r radd flaenaf.

Ar siwmperi'r ysgol honno, gwelir y geiriau "Gorau Awen Gwionedd" a dyna fydd y golofn hon yn ceisio bob mis wrth gyflwyno enw pentrefi a threfi Bro Morgannwg yn eu cyd-destun hanesyddol; gwir pob gair, ac mewn gwioneddol ceir yr hanesion gorau...ydy'r gobaith!

Felly, os ydych chi'n gwybod tarddiad enw gwreiddiol eich pentref, rhodwch wybod: cysylltwch ar david@cymunedau.org neu ffoniwch fi ar 02920 707 469.

David Wyn Williams

## CALENDR

**CYMRORION Y BARRI**  
17/02/15: Byddwn yn datlu gŵyl Sain Ffolant gydag ambell ddarn a chân gogleisiol a hwyliog 7.15pm yn Festri Tabernacl, Y Barri.

27/02/15: Cinio Gŵyl Ddewi yng Nghlwb Golf y Wenfô; rhoswend@hotmail.co.uk/eirypalfrey@yahoo.co.uk.

**ADRAN ADDYSG GYDOL OES CYNGOR BRO MORGANWGW**

Bob nos Lun 6.30-9pm yng Ngholfan Palmerston.

Dosbarthiadau wythnosol gan gynnwys Gwnio, Dosbarth Canu, Crefftau, Coffi, Sgwrs a Gemau Bwrdd. Amser Siori – bob dydd Gwener yng Ngholeg Cymunedol y Bontfaen, 9.30am-11am.

23/02/15: Clwb Llyfrau – "Noson yr Heliwr" gan Lyn Ebenezzer, 7-8pm yng Ngholfan Palmerston.

27/02/15: Darlith a Chinio, Castell Sain Ffagan yn yr Ail Ryfel Byd (gan Dr Sioned Williams), 12.15pm-2pm

yng Ngholeg Cymunedol y Bontfaen; mjfnurnham@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk; 01446 733762.

**CANOLFAN CYMRAEG I OEDOLION**

Noson Gymdeithasol Y Fro – bob nos Lun yng Ngholfan Palmerston, Y Barri, 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Paned a sgwrs a chyfleoedd dysgu cyfrwng Gymraeg

Clinig Iaith – bob dydd Mawrth yng Ngholfan Palmerston, Y Barri, 12pm-1pm.

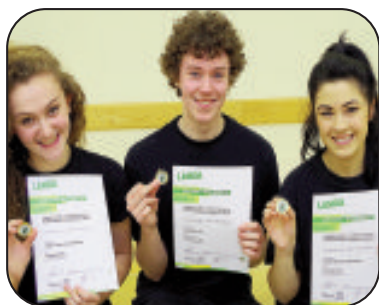
Clwb Breicwast gyda Nic ap Glyn – bob bore dydd Gwener yn Nhafan Y Bears Head, Penarth, 10am-11am.

Bore Coffi i ddysgwyr Gymraeg – bob dydd Sadwrn yn Llyfrgell y Barri, 10am-12pm.

14/02/15 – Sadwrn Siarad yn yr Hen Neuadd, Y Bontfaen, 10am-3pm. Gwersi a gweithgareddau cyfrwng Gymraeg i bob safon; £20 y diwrnod; wiseg3@cardiff.ac.uk / 029 20874710.



## DRAMA STUDENTS' SUCCESS



Verity-Belle, Sam and Siwan pictured with their LAMDA grade 8 certificates and gold medals.

**STAGE COACH Theatre Arts is celebrating success after excellent results achieved by students who recently entered London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) exams.**

Thirty students aged from six to 19 entered the globally recognised exams in either 'speaking of verse and prose' or 'acting', and once again the school maintains its 100 per cent pass rate.

Six-year-old Mia Randles was the youngest student to take an exam, and passed the

'introductory stage 2' level with distinction.

Siwan Wyn Henderson (19), Verity-Belle Atkinson (18) and Sam Walter (16) all took the highest level Grade 8 'solo acting' exam. They have every reason to be celebrating, as all three passed this gold medal grade with the highest mark of distinction.

Stagecoach principal Helene Reynolds commented: "We are delighted by these outstanding results, which reflect and reward the hard work, enthusiasm and talent of our students and tutors."

For more information, call Helene on 01446 772727.

## Sixth former learns about life as an MEP



Jill Evans MEP and Bronwen Lloyd at the European Parliament.

**SINCE 1999, Plaid Cymru MEP Jill Evans has welcomed many young people from Wales to the parliament in Brussels, and the latest is Bronwen Lloyd, a sixth form student at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg.**

Jill Evans said: "It's important to give young people from Wales the opportunity to see how the European Parliament works and how Wales can play its part."

"This helps to raise the profile of Wales in Europe, and scores of young people have been able to gain an insight into working in the EU institutions."

Bronwen Lloyd has

been spending the week in Jill Evans' office in Brussels experiencing a wide range of activities including committee meetings, meetings with constituents and interest groups, as well as helping out with general duties in Jill's office.

Bronwen Lloyd said: "This was my first trip to Brussels, and even that was an experience in itself, but the parliament for me was definitely the main attraction."

"Since I'm bilingual, the translating booths in every committee room were extremely interesting, and to think that these important discussions were happening in several languages, was quite extraordinary."

## New beginners' Pilates course

**A NEW Pilates introductory course for beginners starts on February 26 at 11am in St Nicholas Hall, Barry.**

It runs alongside six existing classes in Barry and two in Cowbridge.

Classes are small and friendly and are taught by qualified Pilates teacher, Sharon Sylvester.

Pilates exercises the whole body, using a range of mat-based

exercises, combining use of the deep postural and stability muscles with movements of the arms and legs, breathing, suppleness and postural awareness.

Pilates is based on eight basic principles – concentration, breathing, centering, control, precision, flowing movements, integrated isolation, and routine.

To book your place, contact Sharon on 07830 085606, first meeting of the new year or see [www.barrypilates.co.uk](http://www.barrypilates.co.uk).

## Barry Pilates Classes

Mondays 9.15am, 10.30am & 5.30pm

Thursdays 10am & 11am

Fridays 6pm & 7.15pm

### New Beginners Course

Start Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 11am

To Book or for more information

Sharon 07830 085606

[www.barrypilates.co.uk](http://www.barrypilates.co.uk)

## Free advice clinic on making a Will

**HOPKINS LAW have introduced an innovative 'free advice clinic' on Tuesdays for advice on probate, Wills, powers of attorney and trust matters.**

The clinics are open to everyone and appointments aren't always necessary, so it's a great opportunity to ask any nagging questions that have been

bothering you.

The insurance company RIAS recently reported that over 8 million over-50s haven't yet made a Will – whether for fear of tempting Fate, or fear of the legal process.

The specialist solicitors at Hopkins Law will make your Will in plain English, and help you ensure that everything you hold dear is left to your loved ones in the future.

## ADVICE ON WILLS & PROBATE

# £0

Yes, that's right, FREE legal advice on Wills, probate issues, powers of attorney and family trusts at our weekly legal clinics every Tuesday during March. For appointments at other times, please pop in or telephone.

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**Do you manage to get good quality sleep for between 6/8 hours each night?**

Good quality sleep is vital to our health and well-being. Poor sleep or insomnia affects many areas of our life, often leading to poor concentration; feeling short-tempered, lacking in energy and motivation, and inability to cope with life.

Inability to sleep can become an obsession, thus exacerbating the problem.

Short periods of

sleeplessness can affect us all; however, if it continues serious health and social problems can result.

Tackling sleep difficulties at the earliest opportunity helps to stop them becoming overwhelming.

Hypnotherapy can effectively reduce the difficulties that can lead to sleep disorders and work towards restoring good sleep patterns.

For more information, contact Sue Pitman at Cardiff Hypnotherapy Solutions, on 07795964066; [www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.co.uk](http://www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.co.uk).



**Sue Pitman**  
HPD, DHP, MNCH(Reg)  
Clinical Hypnotherapist/  
Psychotherapist

Contact Sue on

07795 964066 / 029 20654893

Confidential free initial consultation with no obligation at:

Barefoot Studio, Llandow nr Cowbridge.  
The Business Centre, Barry.  
Wellfield Osteopathic Clinic, Cardiff.  
[www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.com](http://www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.com)

## Scouts and Guides uniforms available at The Pencil Case

**If your child is a Rainbow, Brownie, Guide, Beaver, Cub or Scout, you can now buy their uniform at The Pencil Case in Cowbridge.**

The new range has been extremely well received by local parents, who are delighted that they no longer have to go into Cardiff, or order online and risk buying the wrong size.

All prices have been matched to John Lewis, and with free on-street parking right outside, it is easy for busy families to pop in and try the uniform on for size before buying.

The Pencil Case is open from 9am – 5pm, Tuesday to Saturday. Contact Sally on 01446 772210 or [sally@thepencilcase.co.uk](mailto:sally@thepencilcase.co.uk).



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# In Business Update

## Introducing Atlantic Secure Self-Storage...

**INTRODUCING Atlantic Secure Self-Storage, Barry – the Vale's premier self-storage company.**

Trading out of Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry, offering both external container storage in brand new watertight units, and the latest internal storage units ranging from 25 to 200 sq ft (you've all seen Storage Wars). Storage to suit with flexible terms

### PROVIDING THAT PEACE OF MIND

**THE Hearing Centre is a purposely-designed practice that offers state of the art testing, fitting and aftercare services.**

The centre includes a completely enclosed sound booth, speech mapping facilities and a fitting room to help demonstrate the latest hearing aid technology.

We are an independent practice, which enables us to

recommend the best hearing aid for our clients' particular needs.

All of our customers receive a personal, yet professional service that ensures everything, from the first test to the aftercare, is handled to the highest of standards.

*So if you need a hearing test, or just advice on the best products for you, get in touch with us at 1 Station Approach, Penarth, CF64 3EE; 02920 707760, or www.scottwroe-hearingcentre.co.uk.*

Also, when you look at their disbursements there are hidden charges, such as acting for your mortgage lender. Make sure you look at the disbursements and costs against other firms that may appear more expensive.

and easy access with a lift servicing the upper floor. For your added security, both internal and external storage units have 24-hour CCTV monitoring.

In addition, we provide an on-site forklift truck for the heavier loads, and staff are always available to lend a helping hand.

We are open seven days a week and we will endeavour to meet all your storage needs. As an added bonus, we can offer you a tailored pick-up and drop-off service and receive deliveries for you

to ensure the best use of your precious time – no more hanging around waiting for other people to turn up.

We also supply file boxes, shelving and packaging materials. Browse our website for further details [www.atlanticsecureselfstorage.co.uk](http://www.atlanticsecureselfstorage.co.uk).

We are located at Atlantic House, Unit 8, Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry, CF63 3RF; email [info@atlanticselfstorage.co.uk](mailto:info@atlanticselfstorage.co.uk); or telephone 01446 677648 or 07973 877383.

## Buying or selling your property? Contact Newbold Solicitors

**NEARLY every high street legal firm has a conveyancing department and their fees vary quite dramatically.**

Some solicitors offer you low fees to attract your attention. However, the more files they have for low fees, the less attention they may be able to give you.

Also, when you look at their disbursements there are hidden charges, such as acting for your mortgage lender. Make sure you look at the disbursements and costs against other firms that may appear more expensive.

Subsequently, it can sometimes be daunting to choose the right one for you. Estate Agents may recommend their panel solicitor. What does this mean?

Well, it may mean that on top of the solicitor's usual fee there may be an introducer fee paid and

this can be added to the solicitor's standard rate; you should check this.

You may be happy to pay this because the solicitor and the estate agent or mortgage broker may have a good working relationship, or you may decide that you do not want to pay it.

Some lenders offer a 'factory type' conveyancing service far away from where you are based. It is not then possible to get to know your solicitor and call in for any queries that may come along.

*So what should you do to find yourself a solicitor?*

When you ask what their legal fees are, ask for a breakdown of their disbursements and get reassurances that you will only be paying the disbursements that they advise you about over the telephone:

Make sure you can call into the

office if you have any queries or concerns. Choose local;

Contact solicitors direct for a quote, or call Alex and Tori.

Both are solicitors based in Barry. They head up a talented team of conveyancing assistants.

Their fees are probably the lowest you will find from a high street firm, transparent, with no hidden charges. With the conveyancing mark for quality you can be reassured of the standard of service.

They are part of one of Wales' busiest conveyancing practices; who came second in the UK's Best Law Firm award.

We do not believe you need to look anywhere else!

See [www.newboldsolicitors.com](http://www.newboldsolicitors.com), or contact [alexandtor@newboldsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:alexandtor@newboldsolicitors.co.uk) (direct line 01446 700693, extension 1).

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## Paying rent but your landlord is not maintaining your property?

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Q: How much could I receive?  
A: All claims are different, the average claim is £10,500

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## Fun Foundations' new accreditations

**FUN FOUNDATIONS day nursery celebrated the new year with a succession of new accreditations...**

It has been rated as a 5 by the Vale of Glamorgan Food Standards Agency. This is the top rating and means that the nursery has excellent hygiene standards.

It has received its Vale of Glamorgan Healthy and Sustainable Pre School Scheme second year assessment, which focussed on environment and mental and emotional health and well being.

The report stated that the nursery shows a very positive approach to mental and emotional health and well being, built on a commonsense approach.

Fun Foundations has also been working with the small health workplace award, which is the new national mark of quality for health and well-being in the workplace. The nursery has been awarded the bronze for this and is now working towards the silver.

The whole team at Fun Foundations are always active in their management of continuous development strategies, resulting in improving their practice for children, staff and parents.

To arrange a visit please call the team on 01446 771117 or take a look at the website at [www.funfoundationsdaynursery.co.uk](http://www.funfoundationsdaynursery.co.uk).

[www.funfoundationsdaynursery.co.uk](http://www.funfoundationsdaynursery.co.uk)



### Reasons to celebrate:

- 'Educare' that is child-centred, adventurous and exciting for all!
- All our staff have the relevant childcare qualifications and have completed the necessary Criminal Record Bureau Inspections
- School - run Service, which may include us dropping off and/or collecting from the local area.
- Exclusive parking for dropping off and collecting your children.
- An environment that has been specifically designed to promote and encourage learning through play, focused on development of the individual's needs.
- Fresh meals prepared daily by Sue, the nursery cook.
- Mature and knowledgeable staff who have a wealth of experience in care and education, specialised in the foundation phase.

**10% discount** for each additional sibling registered. Childcare vouchers accepted.

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## NHS contract

**O**NCE again, attacks are being mounted by Tories against our publicly-owned Welsh NHS, in order to distract attention from their stealthy and profit-oriented privatisation of the English NHS.

So perhaps readers who haven't followed the news closely, might like to note that the national media has reported that in the English NHS, a private health company was awarded an £80million contract – even though an NHS consortium bid was £7million lower.

Marc Delaney,  
Barry.

## Beating Bowel Cancer campaign

**E**VERYONE at Beating Bowel Cancer would like to thank all those in your local area who took part in our Decembeard fundraising campaign last month.

We are delighted to announce that we have reached our target of £250,000, which will help us to support people with bowel cancer and their families and to raise awareness of the disease, its symptoms and the need for early diagnosis.

The aim of the annual campaign, which asks men to ditch their razors and grow a beard throughout December, is to break down the stigma of talking about bowel cancer, which is the UK's second biggest cancer killer.

Over 100 people are diagnosed with bowel cancer every day, yet

over 90 per cent of cases can be treated successfully if caught early.

So it's vital that people become more aware of the symptoms so they can act quickly. Decembeard is a fun way for individuals or teams to raise funds and help to increase awareness of the disease. It's easy to do and thousands signed up for it this year. We would like to thank every one of them for their support.

If anyone has any queries or concerns about bowel cancer, there's lots of information and advice on our website, or they can call our Nurse Helpline on 020 8973 0011.

Mark Flannagan,  
CEO, Beating Bowel Cancer  
www.beatingbowelcancer.org

# Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER.

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

## 'ROAD CLOSURE COULD RESULT IN FATALITIES'

**Y**OUR readers will be aware that the road from Ewenny to St Brides Major is to be closed for five months for a railway bridge to be replaced.

The result will be that all traffic from Wick, St Brides and beyond into and from Bridgend will have to take the coast road through Southerndown and Ogmogre by Sea.

In the 32 years that I have lived in Ogmogre, the road into Bridgend has been closed on many occasions, often on the bend where the road goes off to Norton and Heol y Mynnydd.

There is clearly a likelihood of more accidents and closures as a result of the increased traffic.

There has been no consideration

whatsoever of the effect on the access for emergency vehicles should the road through Ogmogre be closed.

Perhaps the Vale Council, who agreed to this road closure, could advise (but doubt if they

will) on the route from and into Bridgend, should the route out of Ogmogre be closed, and the expected time for arrival of an ambulance or fire engine.

Having checked the alternative routes, it

would appear to be at best 40-45 minutes, which could well lead to fatalities amongst our elderly village population. (Dr) David Hawkrige, Ogmogre by Sea.

## 'IS THIS EXTRA HOUSING IN THE VALE NECESSARY?'

**I**N recent months, there has been an energetic debate in The GEM about housing locations in the Vale, whether more housing should be built in rural locations, in or around existing towns, or even whole new towns.

However, these debates have ignored the first question – is this housing necessary?

The Vale of Glamorgan Local Development Plan that proposes these developments – and which I and other Cymru councillors have consistently voted against in council – demands 9,900 new dwellings in the Vale.

But Welsh Government housing

projections, published in February last year, say we only need 5,600.

Taking into account small scale housing and major developments like the Waterfront in Barry, the Vale Council has already given enough planning permission to meet our actual housing need until past 2026.

We should ask ourselves who is benefiting from this over-development?

If those who want to merge Cardiff with the Vale get their way, we will be in a very different position again.

After all, where will Cardiff Council want to build their houses other than on Vale greenfield sites?

Coun Ian Johnson, Plaid candidate for the Vale of Glamorgan, Barry.

## A FIREMAN'S TALE OF STEAM DAYS

**B**ACK in 1952, King George VI had passed away and in Swindon's Locomotive Works, management were in turmoil, as the engine they needed for the funeral, 4082 Windsor Castle was under heavy repair.

A donor engine, 7013 Bristol Castle, exchanged names and numbers and became the new Windsor Castle 4083.

The deception was kept to the end of steam when both were scrapped.

Moving forward to 1962, as a fireman in Cardiff Canton 1953/1965, steam power was in decline, diesels were taking over the main line duties of the

once proud Castle class engines.

So it was in that year that the driver and myself were waiting at Canton relief sidings to work a coal train to Bristol.

It arrived, at the head of the once proud 4082 Windsor Castle, now deprived of its name and number which was chalked on the cab side, the copper and brass now faded, the green paint cracked and rusty.

Steam seemed to leak from every orifice. Reduced to running on slow lines, we arrived in Bristol five hours later.

We left the engine at Bristol Bath Road loco shed, a rough riding, poor steaming, but once pristine royal locomotive. Tony Nicholas.

## Mixed message?

**D**R JOHN SENTAMU, the Archbishop of York is no doubt a very thoughtful and intelligent churchman, but his recent lambasting of "our obsession with money, houses and luxury, leading to misery, not happiness," seems somewhat misplaced.

Whilst decrying these qualities, he is pictured in his robes in front of a magnificent house – Bishophorpe Palace – near York, which has been the home of Archbishops of York for more than 750 years!

Christopher Short, Barry.






# FRENCH APPRENTICES' FLYING VISIT



LEFT:  
Visiting  
French students  
at ICAT.

A GROUP of 43 French aeronautical engineering students came to Cardiff and Vale College to brush up on their English skills and get a taste of the UK aeroplane industry.

The students, aged between 16 and 25, from a college in Cruseilles, France, were also taken on visits to British Airways Maintenance Cardiff (BAMC) and GE's advance engine technology facility in Nantgarw, as well as trips to Cardiff for a taste of Welsh hospitality and culture.

## Appeal for pledges to secure part of Barry's heritage



The helm of the PS Barry.

AN attempt is being made to fundraise to ensure artefacts from the town's paddle steamer the PS Barry are returned to her home town.

Rather than wait until it is discussed fully, pledges only are requested for an important part of the town's maritime history. The bid could be lost if delayed too long.

I hope to secure a successful bid for Barry and I'm appealing to the people of the town to help by sending their pledges to: [kgmaritime.research@googlegmail.com](mailto:kgmaritime.research@googlegmail.com).

The paddle steamer Barry was built for the Barry Railway Company in its venture at the time to capture a share of the Bristol Channel excursion trade.

On the withdrawal of the Barry company from steamer operations in

1910 she passed on to the Bristol Channel Passenger Boats Ltd.

Requisitioned in World War One, she was stationed in Greece, based in Salonika and took part in the Gallipoli landings.

She was refitted in 1920.

In 1926 she was renamed Waverley and sent to the Brighton station replacing Ravenswood.

She became HMS Snafell in World War Two and attended Dunkirk, where she was involved in the rescue of her grounded stablemate Glen Gower.

She was sunk in a bombing raid off Sunderland on July 5, 1941.

On offer to our town at a realistic price are: two large solid brass windows; one brass helm with damaged wheel; a lamp, copper and glass.

JT Greenway.

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Visit our website @ [www.newwaysolarenergy.com](http://www.newwaysolarenergy.com)



## Kids Aloud choir puts out call for talent

THE Wales Millennium Centre (WMC) is looking for young singers to join the Only Kids Aloud Chorus.

Following the success of the 2012 and 2014 Only Kids Aloud choirs, WMC and the Only Aloud charity are appealing for Wales's young performers to apply.

Children aged from nine to 13 years old from all over Wales are encouraged to audition, and applications can be made online.

Graeme Farrow of WMC said: "With performances at the Mariinsky Theatre in Russia and Cape Town's Artscape Theatre, the Only Kids Aloud Chorus has offered some truly unique opportunities for children from all backgrounds across

Wales.

"The 2015 chorus promises to once again offer life-changing experiences for the country's top young choristers and I want to see children of all abilities and backgrounds apply."

To apply, visit [www.wmc.org.uk/OKA](http://www.wmc.org.uk/OKA) and fill in the application form. A sound or video file of the applicant singing a section of a song should also be submitted.

The deadline for applications is February 9. Applicants must be living in Wales and aged between 9 and 13 (must be 14 years old or younger on 31 August 2016).

The Wales Millennium Centre will contact all successful applicants in early February to inform them about the next round of live auditions.





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**APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00PM 11 February 2015**

 Vale of Glamorgan Council
  Hafod Housing Association
  Newydd Housing Association
  United Welsh
  Wales and West Housing Association

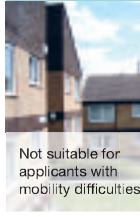


To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at  
**HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk**  
 or apply in writing to:

**Vale of Glamorgan Council**  
**Visible Services and Housing**  
 Civic Offices Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or  
**Newydd Housing Association**  
 121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

**ABERAERON CLOSE, BARRY**

**H4U reference 287048**  
**Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement**  
 • Three-bedroom house  
 • Central heating  
 • Double glazing  
 • Gardens  
**Rent £100.44** per week including water charges

**BUTTLEE COURT, BARRY**

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**Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement**  
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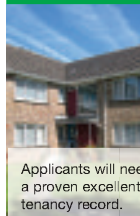
**H4U reference 237110**  
**Suit. for a single person or couple over 55**  
 • Two-bed bungalow  
 • Central heating  
 • Double glazing  
 • Community alarm  
 • Gardens  
**Rent £106.91** pw inc. alarm and water charges

**DALE COURT, BARRY**

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**Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement**  
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 • Double glazing  
 • Central heating  
 • Gardens  
**Rent £101.75** per week including water charges

**DAWAN CLOSE, BARRY**

**H4U reference 110257**  
**Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement**  
 • Three-bedroom house  
 • Gas central heating  
 • Double glazing  
 • Enclosed rear garden  
 • Parking  
**Rent £91.89** per week

**FAIROAKS, DINAS POWYS**

**H4U Reference 231178**  
**Suit for a single person or couple over 60 - no pets**  
 • One-bedroom flat  
 • First floor  
 • Gas central heating  
 • Double glazing  
 • Warden and alarm  
**Rent £108.62** pw including alarm and water charges

**FFORDD ELIN, BARRY**

**H4U Reference 986589**  
**Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement**  
 • Three-bedroom house  
 • Gas central heating  
 • Double glazing  
 • Garden and parking  
**Rent £93.44** per week including service charges

**HANOVER COURT, DINAS POWYS**

**H4U Reference 110221**  
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 • Double-glazing  
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**Rent £112.43** per week

**MAES YR YSGOL, BARRY**

**H4U reference 922210**  
**Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement**  
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 • First floor  
 • Central heating  
 • Double glazing  
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**PARKLAND WALK, BARRY**

**H4U reference 219493**  
**Suitable for a single person over 55 - no pets**  
 • One-bedroom flat  
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 • Central heating  
 • Double glazing  
 • Community alarm  
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**PHILIPPA FREETH COURT, BARRY**

**H4U Reference 110269**  
**Suit for a single person or couple over 50 - no pets**  
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 • First floor (no lift)  
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**Rent £103.73** per week including service charges

**PROCTOR CLOSE, BARRY**

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 • Community alarm  
 • Gardens  
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**ST CATHERINES COURT, BARRY**

**H4U reference 207000**  
**Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement**  
 • Three-bedroom house  
 • Double glazing  
 • Central heating  
 • Gardens  
**Rent £102.21** per week including water charges

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 Immediate rent - preference given to working families  
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 • Central heating  
 • Double glazing  
**Rent £161.10** per week

**WILLIAMS CRESCENT, BARRY**

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**Suit. for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement - no pets**  
 • Two-bedroom flat  
 • First floor  
 • Central heating  
 • Double glazing  
**Rent £85.67** per week including water charges



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## Golfing farmers survive the Arctic weather!

**BLIZZARD** conditions combined with strong winds, driving rain and brief periods of sunshine were just a few of the ingredients experienced by the 29 members of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society when visiting Swansea Bay Golf Club last Thursday to compete for the Llanharan Concrete Trophy and quality prizes supplied by sponsor Mr Gino Cocco.

With the temperature hovering around freezing point playing conditions were extremely difficult and somewhat dangerous but thankfully everyone returned home safely despite some hair-raising moments.

On two occasions 79-year-old Aubrey Thomas gave his playing partners Geraint Davies and Griff Morgan a perfect demonstration of how to ski down a slippery incline demolishing a few gorse bushes en route.

Thankfully for Aubrey the quick action of Geraint and Griff, with only limited experience of dealing with cuts and bruises in the equine market, resulted in just a small amount of blood being lost and more importantly for Aubrey, his famous zipless wallet remaining intact.

As the temperature continued to drop below freezing point the lack of knowing how many fingers were still attached to the wrist became a problem particularly for Bryan Owen.

Bryan's approach shot to the 18th green will long be remembered for the distance his selected 7-iron travelled having left the palm of Bryan's frozen hand.

Not surprisingly many returned to the clubhouse with scores not to be proud of but credit to the majority of competitors for completing their round with just three members making an early return for a warm shower.

Credit however must be given to the overall winner John Caines, who scored 31 stableford points, and also to runner up Dai John, who scored 30 points.

This was the second time in a week that Dai John had finished runner up in a major competition and the mind boggles at the thought of what this popular businessman from Cowbridge could achieve if only



he gave up his day job!

David Williams finished third with 28 points and Griff Morgan finished fourth also with 28 points. Jon Lane was the highest scoring guest and was also successful in being nearest the pin on one of the Llanerch Vineyard and Restaurant sponsored par 3 holes together with Neil McLean, Paul Dumbleby and Martyn Edwards.

For the second month running John Caines hit the longest drive to win the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge sponsored prize and David Williams returned home with the Premier Turf sponsored bottle of whiskey when correctly guessing 48 balls would spend the night in the cold.

This raised £80 for the Noah's Ark charity which sponsor Gino Cocco and his wife Audrey have supported for many years.

Members are now looking forward to the annual Presentation evening scheduled for Friday, February 20 at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge.

TMCC

**Taylor Wimpey**

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## Show home launching soon!

**Channel Heights is a super development of brand new homes located in the popular village of Rhoose in the Vale of Glamorgan. Our show home opens on the weekend of 14 & 15 March – so register now for your invitation to our exciting launch and get the pick of the best plots.**

Ideally located, convenient for the coast and just 13 miles from the city of Cardiff, Rhoose has a popular village Primary School, while secondary schools are just 5 miles by road – one stop on the train. There are local shops in Rhoose, including a Post Office, a Tesco Express, a butchers and a pharmacy. For major shopping, Cardiff has it all.

**Register today for your Launch Event invitation**



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[taylorwimpey.co.uk/southwales](http://taylorwimpey.co.uk/southwales)

Sales centre open Thursday to Monday 10am – 5pm

\*Distances approximate. Price and details correct at time of going to press. Computer generated image shows a typical Taylor Wimpey street scene at Channel Heights, photograph shows a typical Taylor Wimpey interior which may include optional upgrades, available at additional cost. Please ask our Sales Executive for details.



# KNIGHTS

## ESTATE AGENTS • CHARTERED SURVEYORS



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### Curnix Barn, Moulton - £475,000

Four bedroom barn conversion situated within the rural Vale. Impressive ongoing project benefiting from two pony paddocks. Existing current planning consent to extend the dwelling to the ground floor. Set in one and a half acres. Reception hall. Open plan. Wet room. Utility room. Master bedroom with potential for en suite. Family bathroom. Double glazing. LPG gas central heating. Works already completed are to a high spec. NO CHAIN.



### Oxford Street, Barry - £162,500

Two bedroom semi detached. West end of Barry. Entrance hallway. Downstairs w/c. Living room. Kitchen/dining room. Bathroom. Enclosed front and rear gardens. Double garage/workshop. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating. EPC rating: D. NO CHAIN.



### Claude Road West - £199,950

Three bedroom bay fronted property situated in the West End of Barry. Accommodation briefly comprising: entrance porch. Hallway. Lounge. Dining room. Kitchen. Summer room. Bathroom to first floor. Loft room. Large rear garden. NO CHAIN.



### Southesk Place, Barry - £179,950

Three bedroom semi detached property, west end of Barry. Entrance porch. Hallway. Lounge. Dining room. Kitchen. Lean-to conservatory. Downstairs utility w/c. Bathroom. Gas central heating. Majority UPVC double glazing. Enclosed forecourt and rear garden. EPC Rating B. NO CHAIN.



### Maes Glas, Barry - £259,950

Well presented four bedroom detached residence situated in a cul de sac. Hallway. Lounge. Dining area. Sitting room. Kitchen. Utility room. Conservatory. Downstairs w/c. Family bathroom and en suite shower room to master bedroom. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating. Enclosed rear garden. Driveway for two vehicles. EPC rating: D. IDEAL FAMILY HOME.



### Birchgrove, Barry - £299,950

Three double bedroom semi detached in the highly desirable Knap area. Entrance hallway. Two reception rooms. Kitchen. Conservatory. First floor bathroom. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating. Enclosed front and rear gardens. Driveway providing off road parking for two vehicles. Single garage. Viewing highly recommended to appreciate the property's potential to extend. EPC rating: C. NO CHAIN.



### Milburn Close, Rhosoe - £445,000

Unique, executive detached four bedroom residence. Porch. Hallway. Lounge. Dining room. Kitchen. Utility room. Conservatory. Bathroom and two bedrooms. Bedroom two with en suite shower room and balcony. Master with en suite, office and dressing room. Generous gardens. Driveway parking for three vehicles. Garage. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating. EPC Rating D. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.



### Pontypridd Rd, Barry - £274,950

This four bedroom detached bungalow overlooking the woods. West end of Barry. Entrance porch. Hallway. Two large reception rooms. Kitchen. Bathroom. Shower room. Enclosed front and rear gardens. Driveway with off road parking for 3/4 vehicles. EPC Rating: D. NO CHAIN.



### Pontypridd Rd, Barry - £325,000

Rare to the market. Well presented detached former bungalow set on a generous plot. Open porch. Entrance hallway. Lounge/dining room. Kitchen/family room. Utility room. Family bathroom. Three bedrooms/office to the ground floor. Master bedroom and en suite to the first floor. UPVC glazing. Gas central heating. Front and rear garden. Driveway for 2/3 vehicles. Single garage benefiting from power. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

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### Pontypridd Rd, Barry - £325,000

This three/four bedroom detached bungalow offering generous accommodation. Open porch. Entrance hallway. Two/three reception rooms. Kitchen. Utility room. Conservatory. Two bathrooms. Majority UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating via combi boiler, parquet flooring. Front and rear gardens. Driveway with offroad parking for numerous vehicles. Double garage.



### Port Road, East - £359,950

Detached four double bedroom family home overlooking the Vale. Porch. Entrance hallway. Two reception rooms. Kitchen/breakfast room. Utility room. Ground floor shower room and family bathroom. Balcony to master bedroom overlooking the Vale. Gas central heating and partial double glazing. Generous rear garden. Front courtyard. Double garage. EPC rating: D.



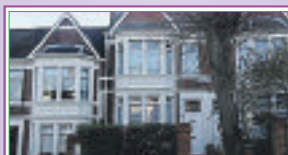
### Plot rear of Fontygary Rd, Rhosoe - £175,000

Available to purchase a single plot in the village of Rhosoe. Entrance via South View. The plot has planning permission for a three bedroom detached residence of contemporary design as seen by architects drawings. South-facing. Views of Bristol Channel and Devon coastline. For more info contact Angela on 01446 709933.



### Churchfields, Barry - £225,000

Well presented four bedroom detached property set in a cul de sac. East end of Barry. Accommodation comprising: entrance hallway. Lounge. Dining room. Modern fitted kitchen. Utility room. Downstairs w/c. Bathroom and en suite shower room. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating. Front and rear gardens. Driveway for 4 vehicles. Garage. EPC rating: D. NO CHAIN.



### Portherry Road, Barry - Offers over £180,000

Four bedroom traditional bay fronted property. West end of Barry. Entrance porch. Hallway. Three reception rooms. Kitchen. Utility area. Small office. Bathroom. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazing. Enclosed forecourt and rear garden. EPC rating: C. NO CHAIN.



### Whitehouse, Barry - £339,000

RARE OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE... Well presented, two bedroom mid link residence situated on the desirable Whitehouse development perched on the edge of the Old Harbour with secret steps descending to the beach and enjoying magnificent views. Accommodation comprising: entrance hallway. Living room. Kitchen. Cloakroom. Family bathroom and en suite shower room. UPVC double glazing. Enclosed rear garden. Panoramic views. EPC Rating: C.



### Wenvoe Terrace, Barry - £174,950

Traditional bay fronted, mid terrace property. Three bedrooms and an office/nursery. Situated within the West End panoramic views across Barry Waterfront and the Bristol Channel. Entrance hallway. Lounge. Sitting room. Dining room. Kitchen. Bathroom. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating.



### Pardoe Crescent, Barry - New Price £129,950

Two double bedroom semi detached property situated in the heart of Barry benefiting from far reaching views. Entrance hallway. Lounge. Kitchen/dining room. Bathroom. Approx. 140' enclosed rear garden. In close proximity to local amenities and bus routes. EPC Rating: D.



### Coigne Terrace, Barry - £135,000

Refurbished to a very high standard throughout... Three bedroom bay fronted property. In the heart of Barry. Entrance porch. Hallway. Living room. Contemporary fitted kitchen and bathroom. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating via combi boiler. Front and rear gardens. Viewing highly recommended. NO CHAIN.

**84 HIGH STREET, BARRY CF62 7DX ★ WWW.KNIGHTS.UK.COM**



# NEW PLAY WILL TELL THE STORY OF ALFIE AND HIS HOME TOWN!

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN



ABOVE: Gareth Thomas and his biographer Michael Calvin, pictured at the Cowbridge book launch.

## Sully bridge results

### MONDAY, January 26:

North/South - 1st Alan Jones/Caroline Matthews 63.43, 2nd Margaret Taylor/Marilyn Jones 55.32, 3rd Trish Tracy/Mike Hurst 55.09. East/West - 1st Gareth Stone/Brian Gardner 63.43, 2nd Anne Johns/ John Pikoulis 56.02, 3rd Anne MacDougall/Anne Hilarey Jones 55.56.

Wednesday, January 28: North/South - 1st Peter Millar/Trish Tracy 68.43, 2nd Pat Evans/Roger

Cradick 64.87, 3rd Diane Coates/Kathy Coates 58.33. East/West - 1st Anne MacDougall/Anne Hilary Jones 62.88, 2nd Peter Craig/Hazel Craig 59.77, 3rd David Hopkins/Lilian Hopkins 54.60.

Saturday, January 31: North/South - 1st Peter Millar/ Jane Brooks 61.90, 2nd Kay Dyer/Reg Dyer 54.76, 3rd Celia Thomas/Huw Thomas 52.86. East/West - 1st Val Hetheridge/Jean Sparkes 59.44, 2nd Tony Cryer/Jennifer Cryer 51.67, 3rd Anne MacDougall/Una Gavin 50.56. **EK**

AN ambitious play that attempts to combine two major local stories opens this month in Cardiff, inspired by the life story of rugby great Gareth Thomas.

The National Theatre Wales production, *Crouch, Touch, Pause, Engage*, opens in the Sherman Theatre on February 23, before going on tour around Wales, concluding at the Sony Theatre in Bridgend College.

In the cast is a Bridgend girl, Katie Elin-Salt, who was one of the star performers in the Bridgend Youth Theatre before embarking on a career in TV and the theatre.

The new play combines two elements: The torment that Gareth Thomas went through before deciding to come out as gay in the macho world of rugby, and the way that his home town of Bridgend was portrayed in 2008 when it was branded the 'suicide capital' of the world.

It was a subject that Gareth Thomas spoke passionately about in Cowbridge in October when he launched his autobiography *Proud: My Story*. He told the audience: "I was approached to do a play about my story, but I felt that I had put everything I felt and thought into the



ABOVE: Katie Elin-Salt in rehearsal in London.

Photo by Robert Workman, National Theatre Wales.

book".

He went on to explain how he had always been so proud of his hometown, and that making his debut in the blue and white of Bridgend had been, at the time, the summit of his ambitions.

He said: "I was a postman at the time and just walking around, and having people stop me and ask me about the game was wonderful."

Being part of Bridgend was special, but that all changed in 2008. He said that wherever he went in the world playing rugby, the mention of Bridgend would bring a response along the lines of: "Oh, the place where people kill themselves".



The cast get to grips with rugby during rehearsals. Photo by Robert Workman, National Theatre Wales.

He said: "When I was approached about the play, I said that I was interested in telling my story, alongside the story of Bridgend, but saying something positive about the town that I love."

National Theatre Wales describe the play as about "two Welsh names, bruised but not beaten by media speculation".

Katie Elin-Salt, has been making a name for herself in the theatre, with lead roles in *Little Voice* (the Octagon Theatre) and *Educating Rita* (Theatre Clwyd).

Fans of Ruth Jones' *Stella*, on Sky7, will

remember her as Amy, the hairdresser who got drunk at an awards ceremony, resulting in a wardrobe malfunction!

For Katie, it is the second time she has been cast in a play that touched on the Bridgend suicide story. National Theatre Wales cast her in *Love Steals loneliness*, by Gary Owen, which painted a pretty bleak picture of Bridgend.

In that, Katie's character was a good-natured girl who seemed resigned to a life with limited horizons.

Speaking from London, where the cast are in rehearsals, she told The GEM that Crouch, Touch, Pause Engage, was much more positive in tone.

She said: "There is a lot of rugby in the play, so all the cast have been working on tackling and passing."

"We tell Gareth's story - and that of other bridgend people - entirely in their own words." The technique, described as "documentary verbatim" has been written by Robin Soans for the Out of Joint theatre company, and is based on interviews with people affected by the suicides. The veteran London producer, Max Stafford-Clark, was keen to direct the show, hence the rehearsals taking place in London.

The cast will soon be in Cardiff, putting the final touches to the show. Previews start on February 19.

The final venue in Wales is on March 26 and March 28, at the Sony Theatre in Bridgend College.

However, that is not the end, as the show then goes on tour around England during the months of April and May!



## BARRY TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y BARRI

### GRANTS FOR LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

Applications are invited from local voluntary and not for-profit organisations seeking financial assistance in 2015/16. Forms are available from Barry Town Council, 7 Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA. Telephone: (01446) 704920 info@barrytowncouncil.gov.uk

Your constitution and latest audited accounts must accompany the application. New organisations must submit a business plan/budget in place of audited accounts. All applications complying with the criteria will be considered. The submission of an application does not guarantee that a grant will be awarded.

The Council are unable to consider applications from or on behalf of National Organisations, unless they can demonstrate that their services will benefit a significant proportion of the local community.

Applications should be returned to the address given below by or before Friday, 6 March 2015.

Mr C Lewis  
Town Clerk  
Council Offices  
7 Gladstone Road  
Barry  
CF62 8NA



## BARRY TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y BARRI

### GRANTIAU I FUDIADAU LLEOL

Gwahoddir ceisiadau oddi wrth fudiadau gwirfoddol ac nider-mwyn-elw lleol sy'n awyddus i gael cymorth ariannol yn 2015/16. Mae ffurflenni ar gael oddi wrth Gyngor Tref Y Barri, 7 Heol Gladstone, Y Barri, CF62 8NA. Ffôn: (01446) 704920 info@barrytowncouncil.gov.uk

Mae'n rhaid ichi gynnwys eich cyfansoddiad a'ch cyfrifon archwiledig diweddaraf gyda'r cais. Rhaid i fudiadau newydd gyflwyno cynllun busnes/cyllideb yn lle cyfrifon archwiledig. Bydd pob cais sy'n cydymffurfio â'r meini prawf yn cael eu hystyried. Nid yw cyflwyno cais yn golygu eich bod yn rhwym o dderbyn grant.

Nid yw'r Cyngor yn gallu ystyried ceisiadau oddi wrth neu ar ran Mudiadau Cenedlaethol, oni bai y gallant ddangos fod eu gwasanaethau o fudd i gyfran sylweddol o'r gymuned leol.

Dylid danfon ceisiadau i'r cyfeiriad isod erbyn neu cyn dydd Gwener, 6 Mawrth 2015

Mr C Lewis  
Clerc y Dref  
Cyngor Tref Y Barri  
7 Heol Gladstone  
Y Barri  
CF62 8NA

## Barry Inter battle to draw

**BARRY Inter under-12s faced Cardiff Hibernians on the weekend.**

Playing a side that were top of the league the boys were expected to be on the end of a hammering, but they had other plans and upset the apple cart.

Knocking the ball around on the ground and playing out from the back bringing plenty of players into play, we passed it around well against a side blessed with skill and lots of raw power.

A mix up led to Hibernian's first goal, and they then scored again. We responded by running at them and we were rewarded with a goal just before halftime, dispatched by Eski.

The second half started brightly and there really wasn't a lot between these sides. Things were starting

though to swing our way, and defending valiantly were Dan, Charlie, Josh and Aron, supplemented by Sion.

Our midfield of Iestyn, Owen, Jack and Lloyd worked tirelessly covering every blade of grass, while up front Eski and Jacob were a handful and very lively.

The time was ticking and we wondered if we could get something out of this as we really deserved it, and up popped Lloyd, whose cracking shot beat their goalkeeper.

Without these boys playing as a unit would not have come through this, this was a top performance - well done boys. Big thanks to Ade for refereeing so impartially.

Team: Connor, Dan, Charlie, Josh, Aron, Sion, Iestyn, Owen, Jack, Lloyd, Eski and Jacob. **DD**





**Colcot Road, Barry**  
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Large Rear Garden  
Drive & Garage

**£144,950** D60



**White Farm, Barry**  
3 Bedrooms  
Good Size Rear Garden  
1st Occupied In 2014

**£185,000** B80



**Cilgant Y Meillion, Rhose Point**  
4 Bedrooms & 3 Receptions  
Conservatory Extension  
Good Privacy & Immaculate Order

**£239,950** C73



**Chris Davies**



**Lower Holmes Street, Barry**  
Ground Floor Apartment  
One Double Bedroom  
Open Lounge/Kitchen/No Chain

**£67,000** F25



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**£99,950** D62



**Cora Street, Barry**  
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**£119,950** D58

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D68 (Band A)  
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£550 PCM

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Modern Bathroom/Shower  
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£550 PCM

**Shakespeare Drive, Llantwit Major**  
3 Bedrooms,  
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£650 PCM

**Mayflower Way, Rhose**  
4 Bed Detached Home  
3 Reception Rooms  
2 Baths, Ground Floor WC  
D64 (Band E)  
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2 Bedrooms  
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Gas CH & DG

**£119,950** D67



**Radnor Green, Barry**  
3 Bedroom Semi - No Chain  
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Garage and Generous Gardens

**£129,950** E52



**Porthkerry Road, Barry**  
3 Bedrooms - No Chain!  
Sea Views, Sun Patio Rear  
Very Good Order - West End!

**£141,950** D68



**Ash Grove, Barry**  
2/3 Beds & 1/2 Receptions  
Refurbished Internally  
Large Gardens

**£159,950** E45



**Clos Celyn, Barry**  
3 Bedroom - Generous Plot  
Immaculate Order Throughout  
Enclosed Side/Rear Garden

**£172,950** B81



**Clos Yr Wylan, Barry Island, Barry**  
3 Double Bedrooms, Superb Rear  
Garden With Sea View, Drive/Garage,  
2 En-Suites, Great Order

**£199,950** C73



**Bramble Avenue, Barry**  
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Pleasant Position

**£209,950** D60




**Llanmead Gardens, Rhose**  
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**£127,000** C71



**Heol Y Dryw, Rhose Point**  
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**£154,950** C77




**Torbay Terrace, Rhose**  
3 Bed Terraced Cottage  
2 Reception Rooms  
Large Garden and Garage

**£155,950** E48



**Cwrt Newton Pool, Rhose Point**  
3 Bed End Link  
Conservatory  
Garage

**£164,950** C76



**Porthkerry Road, Rhose,**  
Traditional 3 Bed Semi  
3 Reception Rooms, Conservatory  
Workshop Plus Parking for 4 Cars

**£199,950** D57




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**£269,950** D68



**Fontygary Road, Rhose,**  
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Double Garage, Large Plot

**£329,950** D68



**Lower Farm Court, Rhose**  
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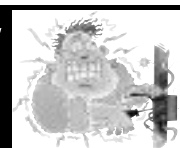
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**CYHOEDDUS YN BARHAOL 2015**



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990, SECTION 257 AND PARAGRAPH 1 OF SCHEDULE 14 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 2 PORTHCERI (PART)**  
**PUBLIC PATH STOPPING UP ORDER 2015**

Gwnaethpwyd y Gorchymyn uchod ar 19 Ionawr 2015. Effaith y Gorchymyn fydd cau'r llwybr troed cyhoeddus sy'n arwain o GGC 307050 166100 i'r de o'r rheilffordd yn Y Rhws hyd at GGC 307054 166009 ac yn agor ar Drem Echni, fel y'i dangosir ar fap y Gorchymyn, yn barhaol.

Bydd copïau o'r Gorchymyn a map y Gorchymyn ar gael i'w hastudio'n rhad ac am ddim yn ystod yr wythnos, yn Swyddfa'r Doc, Heol yr Isfordd, Y Barri CF63 4RU rhwng 9.00am a 4.00pm. Bydd copïau o'r Gorchymyn a'r map ar werth yn y fan honno am £4.50 yr un.

Cewch wneud sylwadau ar y Gorchymyn neu'i wrthwynebu drwy anfon neu dddod â llythyr i'r cyngor. Dylech ei gyfeirio at Gyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Datblygu Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfa'r Dociau, Heol yr Isfordd, Y Barri, CF63 4RT a sicrhau ei fod yn ein cyrraedd erbyn 5 Mawrth 2015. Dylech hefyd nodi eich holl resymau dros ymateb.

Os na ddaw unrhyw sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau i law yn y modd priodol, neu os caiff unrhyw rai a wnaethpwyd eisoes eu tynnu'n ôl, bydd hawl i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg gadarnhau'r Gorchymyn ei hun fel Gorchymyn diwrthwynebiad. Os anfonir y Gorchymyn at Weinidogion Cymru ar gyfer ei gadarnhau, bydd unrhyw sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau nas tynnwyd yn ôl, yn cael eu hanfon gyda'r Gorchymyn.

Dyddiedig 5 Chwefror 2015

The above Order was made on the 19th day of January 2015. The effect of the Order will be to stop up the public footpath running from NGR 307050 166100 south of the rail line in Rhose to NGR 307054 166009 where it exits on to Trem Echni, as shown on the Order map.

A copy of the Order and the Order map may be seen free of charge at the Dock Office, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. on any weekday. Copies of the Order and map may be bought there at the price of £4.50.

Any representation about or objection to the Order, may be sent or delivered in writing addressed to the Director of Development Services, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT not later than the 5th day of March 2015. Please state the grounds on which it is made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, The Vale of Glamorgan Council may itself confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Welsh Ministers for confirmation, any representations or objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

Dated this 5th day of February 2015

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# GEM FAMILY NOTICES

## McLEAN

### Richard

Heartfelt thanks to everyone for all the love, support, cards, flowers and meals after the recent sad loss of Richard. Also, thank you to all who attended his funeral. Thanks to Reverend Huw Butler, Reverend Phil Hibbert and John James, Fonmon, for the 'spot on' service. There is a huge amount of human kindness and compassion amongst the people of Llantwit Major. Deo gratis.  
Jim & Tricia McLean, April & family.

## JOHN

### Elsie Irene

Elsie, of St Athan, died peacefully at Milsom House Nursing Home on January 27th. Devoted wife of the late Lyn, loving mother to Sue and the late Jayne, mother-in-law to John, grandmother to Kristian and great-grandmother to Alex.  
*You will be remembered fondly by us all, but you and Dad are together again.*

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday February 9, service and cremation 11.30am at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to The Alzheimers Disease Society c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhosce, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

## In Memory of William Job Northway (Bill)

4th February 1933 to 4th February 2014.  
Passed away one year ago on February 4. Not just today but every day, we all remember you with love and affection.  
Love you forever - Eunice, Jane, Tosh, Esther, Mike, Caroline, Tiernan, all the grandchildren and great grandson. XXXXX

## In Memory BILL NORTHWAY

My darling husband and loving dad.  
Passed away on 4 February 2014.  
One year ago, I miss you more than ever,  
My thoughts are of you every day,  
Till we meet again all my love,  
Eunice.

## LEER

### Alf

Joyce and family would like to express their thanks for all the support, kind messages of sympathy and attendance at the funeral following the sad loss of Alf.

Our sincere thanks to Reverend Susan Moll for officiating at the service and Thomas Brothers Funeral Directors.  
A special thanks also to Tony for the touching eulogy.

## STANTON

### Patricia

One year today.  
Missed by all your family  
and your loving husband Tony,  
you will always be remembered  
Goodnight babes xx

## PREW

### Clifford (Charlie)

Died on January 31st in Llandough Hospital aged 89 years. Beloved husband of Marion. Much loved father to Sharon, Tina, Jackie and step daughter Linda. Proud granddad and great granddad.  
Funeral service to take place at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry on Monday, 9th February at 10.15am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Prostate Cancer Support Unit, UHW.

## FARLEY

### Patricia Ann

Peacefully on January 30 at Holme Tower, Penarth, Tricia of Rhosce, dearly loved sister of Avril and brother-in-law of Alex.  
Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday February 13, service 11.45am at St. Marys Church, Penmark, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 1pm, no mourning attire. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o Mrs C James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhosce, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

## Birthdays

**Happy Birthday**  
**GARETH JAMIESON**  
on 8th February,  
Best wishes from all your friends at the Gem

**Ffion Goodland**  
**Happy 18th Birthday**  
on 9th February 2015  
*Have a fab day!*  
Lots of love, Nan, Bampy, Auntie Melissa & Auntie Kath xxx

**Jessica Lewis**  
**Happy 18th Birthday**  
on 8th February 2015  
Lots of love, Mum, Dad, Brother, Nan, Gramps & family xxx

**Happy 50th Birthday**  
**Deb Morris**  
11th February  
to a wonderful wife & mum  
Love Richard, Victoria, Charlotte & Abigail xxxxx

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Please visit our website  
www.cowbridgecomprehensiveschool.co.uk  
to view the vacancy details and download an application pack, click: About us> School Information>School Vacancies. Alternatively tel: Mrs Sellwood: 01446 772311

## Funeral Directors

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## WATTS

### Portia Rosina

Suddenly on January 27 at her home in Barry, Portia, beloved daughter of the late Arthur and Eunice Watts of Rhosce, dearly loved sister of David and Gillian, loving aunt of Vicky, Sophie and Myfanwy.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday February 10, service and cremation 12 noon at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Kidney Research, c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhosce, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

## RUPUCIS

### Grace (née Tetley)

Peacefully on 25th January in Barry Hospital, Grace aged 82 years, beloved wife of the late Robert, dear mother to Andrew.  
*Greatly loved and missed by all her family and friends.*

Resting at A G Adams & Son, Gladstone Road, Barry until the service in the funeral home chapel on Friday, 13th February at 10.30am, afterwards to Trealaw Cemetery. Family flowers only please, if wished donations may be sent in Grace's memory to the Alzheimer's Society c/o 16 Columbus Walk, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff CF10 4BY.

## Tabert

### Bryan

*Denise and family would like to thank everyone for the gifts, messages and lovely cards at this sad time.*

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# Barry Amateur Swimming Club holds its AGM and presentation evening



**ON Saturday, January 31, the Barry Amateur Swimming Club held its AGM and presentation evening in the Cadroxton Conservative Club upstairs event room.**

The chairman, Mrs Heulwen Cooper, welcomed life members, parents and swimmers to the Barry Swimming Club's 89th AGM and the report for the year 2014.

Apologies had been received from several members including Mrs Sheila Owens, who with her husband Ray had been with the Barry Swimming Club for over 40 years. Unfortunately last September Ray died and our club will greatly miss his care and assistance.

Ray had been an essential member of the club, and following the death of Mr Ray Sutton, our very long standing chief coach some years ago, Ray Owens had been responsible for securing the continuation of the club for many years. He had also been the club president for several years.

The minutes of our AGM last year were accepted with the addition of Mrs Jenny Wilcox whose presence had been omitted.

It was reported that the club had competed in the National Arena Swimming League once more and our final result placed us third from bottom in Division 2 of the league.

We were very happy to be in this position as our membership has declined greatly over the recent years. We have very few male members currently, which greatly affects our chances of gaining points at galas.

Many of our boys had to swim up several age groups which was very tiring apart from the disadvantage that the other swimmers were bigger and faster in the other lanes. We also

thanked our volunteer masters swimmers once again for being willing to help us again.

This year, unfortunately, Paul Buckle found that he could no longer commit time to continue as a club coach. Paul had been a stalwart member for some time despite his children having left the club many years previously.

We were very fortunate that Jonathan Davies and Roger Welch stepped in and were doing a great job with our junior and new swimmers. However we need more volunteers to offer to help with the 7pm hour on Monday.

Some of our older swimmers, Ryan Connor and Jack Parry, have been helping in this hour and are doing some excellent work.

We will soon be swimming the Postal Long Distance Swim for girls with the boys swimming it the following week. The Postal Swim requires swimmers to swim as many lengths of the pool as possible in one hour and each age group will be competing with other club swimmers from all parts of the UK.

We've had a few first places at this event and several medals in recent years. Then, on July 4, most of our swimmers will be competing in the Cardiff Bay Meet. This competition has been running for 26 years and is organised by our club at the Cardiff Pool. Last year this Gala made a profit of over £4,000 for our club.

Swim Wales have recently issued a new club constitution which all member clubs have to accept and adopt. This had been placed on to the club's Facebook page so that all parents had an opportunity to read it. The acceptance of the new constitution was proposed and seconded and it was therefore now operational for the club.

The treasurer issued copies of the annual report for 2014 and this showed that the club was in a far better

financial position than had been the case 12 months ago.

Club captains had been chosen by the coaches: club captains, girls - captain Georgia Looker, vice captain Ffion Goodland; boys - captain Ryan Connor, vice captain Jack Parry. Both Georgia and Ffion will be going to university in September and we asked Bethan Williams to take the captain's post from September.

The meeting moved on to the presentation of trophies won by swimmers at the annual championship galas in November. The club possesses in the region of 50 trophies which are presented annually to the championship winners.

## SPECIAL TROPHIES

Mike Looker, our very hard-working coach, presented the trophies to the winners.

Following the championship presentations some special trophies were awarded.

Best runner up is awarded to a boy and a girl who have competed in our annual championships but who haven't actually won a cup in any of the five championship events.

Each swimmer is awarded points for the place he or she comes in each event, six for first place, five for second, etc, and the boy and girl who have not won any events but have the highest total of points over all events.

This year the winners of these cups were girls - in second place Daisy Thomas but the winner was Ffion Goodland; boys - second was Aaron Belby, the winner was Tomos Pugh.

Best newcomer is awarded to the girl and boy swimmer who had joined the club within the past year and who may have been a good or maybe not so good a swimmer upon joining, but who had worked hard to reach a very good standard in his/her age group since joining the club.

Several new members had joined the club during the year but they were girls and we had almost no new boys so for this year we decided to withdraw the boys' cup in this category.

However, one of the girls stands out for her determination and her enormous improvement in a relatively short time - Connie Millar.

The best novice swimmer is awarded to the girl and boy swimmer who are fairly young and have only been a member of the club for a couple of years.

He/she was probably not a very good swimmer when he/she joined the club, but has worked extremely hard since joining and has improved his/her swimming technique and ability greatly. Several youngsters were considered, however two young members were deemed as the best novice swimmers for 2014 - Isabelle Thomas and Henry Davies.

Most improved swimmer goes to a swimmer who has been a member of the club for quite some time but whose competitive ability and performance had improved significantly during the past year.

Several members had made a great deal of improvement during the year, but eventually it was agreed that the two who had improved most spectacularly were Nia Fuller, shared with Pia Sully, and Taylor Albrites.

We had a trophy which was presented to a member who has shown a great deal of effort and loyalty; however two members stand out as winners of the E cup this year - Jack Parry and Ryan Connor. Club member of the year is awarded every year to one male and one female adult member for their work during their time at the club.

Many people had been considered for working on behalf of the club, however Caroline Smart had done so much to help this year - she

had stepped up to help Mike out with the coaching, she had helped with team selection for galas and most of all she was now producing our very colourful and informative newsletter, so she was a deserving winner.

We've also several men who have worked very hard this year. We've had a hard time due to several of our experienced members leaving.

As we know Mike Looker has been a brick once more and has almost singlehandedly supported all our training sessions and we are most grateful to him for his very, very hard work and dependability. He is already a life member of the club and a very important one.

Many others have given us a lot of their time to help in many ways - however two gentlemen have helped greatly taking on the training of our junior swimmers. They've worked very hard and will be prepared to step up to help in the later session eventually.

We were so grateful to both Roger and Jonathan for all the hard, dependable work they've put in this year - we couldn't pick one of them so we presented them with the cup to share this year and thanked both for all the work.

Some others had put in some exceptional time and effort during the year - Elaine Romain had taken on a whole load of extra work for the club over the past year, despite her daughter Amy having left the club.

Elaine had been a very hardworking member of the club for many years, but for the past year she had taken on far more of the responsibilities than she should have done. For her loyalty, Elaine was given life membership of the club.

Another person who had worked under the radar for many years was Mr Martin Harries. His children left the club

several years ago but he stayed with us, attending most Sunday morning sessions still and trialling new members when necessary.

Martin was fixture secretary for many years previously. We were most grateful to him for his help on Sundays and we also awarded Martin life membership of the club.

The chairman thanked all for attending the meeting and moved on to the disco, where a great night was had by all.

HC



## Sully bowlers aim for the top!

**SULLY bowls teams are aiming for their strongest finish to a season for a number of years with the Championship side having the opportunity to finish near the top of the league table if they beat Newport this Saturday at Newport, starting from 2pm.**

The Sully seniors have qualified for the national play-offs by winning their division, losing just one game in the process, and now travel to Pontardawe on Tuesday, February 10, to play Selway from west Wales in the quarter-

finals.

The Sully club have progressed positively over the past few years with club members showing increased interest in playing for both sides, and with new members improving with experience the potential is there for all to see.

There are still opportunities for members who have shown over the year that they are good enough to now put their names forward to strengthen the squad in readiness for next season.

Good luck to Sully seniors for next Tuesday!

FP

## PG10 IN A RECORD-BREAKING SEASON

**PG10 Coaching is celebrating a record breaking season with thousands of junior players participating in football activities and over a hundred children progress to join professional football clubs.**

The FAW fun football accredited football provider which has a development centre in the Vale, as well as a girls development centre also based in the Vale, provides coaching and sport opportunities for children and young people of all abilities aged between four-17 years old.

Huge praise has been given to the team of coaches at PG10 and also

grassroots clubs who voluntarily provide local opportunities for children and young people making a huge difference to Welsh football but also promote good values to our next generation so they become better footballers but more importantly better people.

Led and mentored by Neville Southall, a number of PG10 players have gained accredited coach education, child protection and First Aid qualifications.

To aid player development, coaches have also gained insight to Barcelona FC, Valencia FC and Villarreal FC academies and this year will visit Bayern Munich and Real Madrid with its players.

To get involved with PG10 please email [petegriff10@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:petegriff10@hotmail.co.uk) or visit [www.pg10coaching.co.uk](http://www.pg10coaching.co.uk).

PG

## Bridge results

**VALE of Glamorgan bridge club results for February 2:**

1st Barrie Waite & Graham Norris 61.26%, 2nd Liam Sheridan & John Beard 60.86%, 3rd Alan Grant & Margaret Price 60.16%.

LE



# CHESSE BUBBLE BURSTS

## IT was a strange night on Monday.

Three of our teams were all playing on the same night. Usually this would not present a problem as there are more than enough players to be able to select three competitive teams.

However there were a number of players unavailable for all the teams. This meant that players who would normally expect to play for a lower ranked team found themselves drafted into a higher division. We did manage to fill all our teams with no defaults – unfortunately that was as good as it got.

The Bosons travelled to Caerphilly in a division one clash with the Kings. Both sides on paper were evenly matched, but the game is not played on paper and we returned home with our tails firmly between our legs, with only Lee Davis and the reliable Dave Parsons earning draws to leave us with a 4-1 defeat.

The Bosons are now a half point behind our second team, the Barry Camelots, and a whole five points behind the Cardiff Castles.

In division 3 the Quarks entertained the bottom team, the Nelson Griffins. On four of the five boards the players were evenly matched. However, on board three

Dave Mahoney, while giving away a 104 rating advantage, was our only winner on the night.

Chris Green on board one managed a good draw to earn us 1.5 points from a possible 5.

With Bridgend beating Rhondda, the Quarks drop to second while the Griffins move off the bottom.

In division four the Gambits, with an inexperienced team, travelled to one of the promotion favourites, Bridgend Central Mallards. Like the Bosons we returned having lost 4-1; our '1' came from a first ever victory for Nick Mavroyenous on time as his opponent failed to play 30 moves in his allotted 60 minutes. This was an excellent performance in only his second league game.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night.

For more details visit our website at [barrychessclub.yolasite.com](http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com).

Phil Jones

## Trainer Evan in a Taunton Double

**LLANCARFAN'S** Evan Williams was in good form at the recent Taunton meeting where he landed an 84-1 double with 16-1 chance *Tornado In Milan* and 4-1 shot *Copper Birch*.

The former, ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney, won the Superman And War Elephant Challenge Handicap Hurdle and the latter, just over half-an-hour or so later, took the Smokin' Aces Chase Handicap with 5lb claiming conditional jockey Conor Ring in the saddle.

Of *Tornado In Milan*, Evan said: "He won well here last season and the form was good, but we put the hood on him and it turned him off completely. This was a sort of last chance saloon. We changed a lot of things. We were mystified why he had lost his form, so we took the hood off him and we got rid of the ear plugs. He has a crossed noseband and we got rid of that and stuck a sheepskin noseband on him."

*Tornado In Milan*

won by eight lengths from *Chesil Beach Boy* and *Copper Birch*, who carried top weight, scored by seven lengths from *Mission Complete*. **TIGER RAG** *Tiger Rag*, a six-year-old chestnut gelding owned and trained by Jonathan Tudor at Merthyr Mawr, was a 4-1 winner of the Intermediate race at the Mid Devon Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Black Forest Lodge on Sunday.

*Tiger Rag* is usually ridden by James Tudor but on this occasion was partnered by Bradley Gibbs, who rides out for Aberthyn National Hunt trainer Tim Vaughan.

James Tudor was in action at the South Dorset Hunt Point-To-Point at Milborne St Andrew where he won the Bonham's Men's Open Race on the Alan Hill trained *Harbour Court*.

In a field of 12 runners, *Harbour Court* was made an odds-on favourite and Ogmores' Nick Williams took third place on *Raffa*.

BRIAN LEE

## Barry & District ladies skittles league results

### RESULTS for week commencing January 19:

First division: Allsorts (S Tierney 30) 283, Barry Stars (T Johnstone 29) 278; Coppers (L Tiley 35) 332, SV Gals (J Richards 33) 327; Colcot Ladies (P Johnson 30) 269, Castaways (J Tobin 28) 249; Red Admiral (K McCarthy 24) 253, Pila Palas (S Bennett 26) 238; Space Finders (D Cleaver 37) 351, Family Affair (J Walden, S Vincent 32) 318; Cigar Ladies (E Simmans 30) 293, Family and Friends (N Provis 31) 303; Special Angels (L Mountford 26) 208, Bakers Dozen (S Martin, M Lewis 28) 292.

Second division: Strikers (L Gould 27) 240, Divas (W Draisey 27) 227; Roller Coasters (J Marriott 26) 222; Witchill Widows (S Hum 28) 266; Vixens (M Marks 30) 271, After Eights (E Tombs 28) 270; Bobby's Girls (J Barnett 28) 243, S V Lights (P Forrester 26) 262; Castle Bandits (E Evans 29) 264, Witchill Weebies (N Harthy, S Edwards 25) 227; Cad Con Fillies (S Chilcott 28) 234, Rhooose Starlights (A White, K Bryan 23) 223;

Clickies (C Walters 32) 292, Breakaways (V Martin, Dawkins 30) 309.

Third division: Rhooose Ravers (J Bishop 26) 251, Westenders (J Jaynes, C Gee 25) 242; Jolly Dollies (C Thomas 24) 212, Airways Angels (E Lewis 25) 227; Rugby Triers (S Butler 28) 233, Hill Billies (G Moorcroft 25) 229; S V Ladies (K Lacny 29) 280, Dolly Mixtures (L Marsh 35) 285; Lil's Devils (D Harthy 25) 219, Persuaders (K Phillips 26) 243; Etcetera (C Mackintosh 28) 274, Friends and Neighbours (B Nicholls 30) 272; Witchill Wanderers (V Kerslake 35) 270, Merry Makers (M Payne 30) 360.

Fourth division: Twilights (C Sims 21) 177, Rebels (K Burman, S Oram 22) 208; Challenger (B Griffiths 31) 220, BFFs (C Rees 28) 225; Wyndham Witches (W Williams, Y Curnow 25) 224, Fallen Angels (D Richards 26) 226; Railway Rogues (J Hawkins 26) 189, Boozy Birds (S Rudeforth 33) 213.

Fifth division: Smurfs (E Dee 22) 158, Liberals (F Williams 33) 129.

## Wolves shake off rustiness with win

**AFTER what seemed months without a game, Dinas Wolves under-12s were the faster out of the blocks on Saturday morning against Cowbridge Reds.**

Two well-taken goals from B Harewood gave Dinas an early lead. The home side gave their opponents very little time to settle and played a very direct game.

C Hewitson and C Saunders added two more before the break to walk in with a comfortable four goal cushion.

J Lewis, R Mallum and T Williams looked

as solid as ever playing out from the back, while Z Fifield, J Doughty, K Quest and J Pereira worked tirelessly in the midfield.

The second half saw Cowbridge tighten up and it took a while for Dinas to add to their tally. T Williams was unlucky to miss from the spot, sending his attempt wide.

C O'Brien put in a cracking free kick which the Dinas strikers managed to hit the upright with. Frost pushed into the screening role which allowed Dinas to drive on more and goals soon came from a rasping shot from Hewitson and a third to complete his

hat-trick from Harewood.

Dinas peppered the Cowbridge goal throughout the second half but were matched by strong defending. J Moss and Mallum made sure D Morris had little to do.

K Booker ran his full back into the ground and was replaced by O'Brien.

In the final kick of the match, Cowbridge were awarded a penalty but Morris comfortably saved it. Man of the match was awarded to B Harewood.

Final score Dinas Powys 6, Cowbridge 0. **LS**

## Cowbridge darts league round-up

**ON Tuesday January 27, there was a full programme of league matches.**

The Highwayman Inn defeated the Old Post Ladies 7-2, the Edmondes C lost 2-7 to the Edmondes A. In this match Mark Dowling (Edmondes C) hit a 3-dart 180. The other two games Edmondes B won 8-1 against the Farmers Arms and the Hare and Hounds lost 1-8 to Llanharry.

Present league standings after 13 matches, are: Llanharry (96 points), Edmondes B (72), Edmondes A (66), Highwayman Inn (62), Hare and

Hounds (54), Farmer's Arms (46), Edmondes C (45) and Old Post Ladies (25).

On Tuesday, February 10, the first round matches in the men's doubles will be played. The venues for these games are the Edmondes Arms and Llanharry Working Men's Club.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome. For further information e-mail Paul at [cwbridgedarts@gmail.com](mailto:cwbridgedarts@gmail.com); up-to-date information can be found on the website: [www.darts.apsn.co.uk](http://www.darts.apsn.co.uk).

PJT

## Cowbridge under-16s overpower Barry RFC

**COWBRIDGE under-16s reached new heights with their performance against Barry last week, which overwhelmed their opponents by six tries to one.**

In a match where forwards and backs combined to produce a game of fast and furious running and tackling, Barry simply were unable to compete.

The first try came within the first few minutes when quick ball from the scrum and crisp handling through the backs resulted in wing Seán Davies scoring in the corner.

Further tries by Ellis Simon and Max Cunnington and two conversions by outside half Bev Howells saw Cowbridge end the first half leading 19-0.

The second half began with a fight back by the visitors but excellent tackling from Osian John, Sam Palmer and Will Cousins prevented Barry from crossing the

line. After weathering the storm Cowbridge eventually began to dominate in all aspects of the game again.

A great run from the halfway line by centre Joe Nott saw him almost reach the line before being tackled but a superb offload to Cameron Roy resulted in a try under the posts.

The Cowbridge pack were now completely in control, led by captain James Holder and ably assisted by Harry Hopkins, Otto Guwy and Josh Evans.

With flanker Duncan Ace winning turnover after turnover it came as no surprise when Kyle May-Rees scored Cowbridge's fifth try.

However, Barry never gave up trying to stem the flow of attacks and were finally rewarded with an interception try which was converted.

The final try was a

truly superb effort. Seán Davies gathered the ball from inside his 22-metre line and set off on a 60 yard run, beating five defenders before passing to Bev Howells.

The ball sped along the line to second row Harrison Stevens, who, with a clever hand off, dived over for a brilliant try. Bev Howells converted two of three tries of the half to complete an outstanding win and gain revenge for the narrow defeat inflicted on them by Barry last season.

A very special thank you to the under-15s players, who not only allowed the under-16s to fulfill the fixture, but contributed to an outstanding victory: Angus James, James Guard, Bev Howells, Max Cunnington, Cameron Roy and Ellis Simon.

AD

WE welcome your news, reports and other items of interest - email us at: [gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk)



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# Brian's (point-to-point) blast from the past – PART TWO: THE 1980s

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

**T**HIS week, Brian Lee, who has been reporting on the Welsh hunt-racing scene for almost half a century, takes a look back at his press scrap books from the 1980s.

The first yellowing press cutting that appears in my scrapbook for 1981, is about Cowbridge's own

## Dinas Powys ladies golf

**RESULTS from Dinas Powys Golf Club ladies' section:**

On December 16, we held a pre Christmas nine hole Stableford: First, Annie Blackburn, 18pts on back 6 from second Pam Warne 18pts; third, Audrey Harwood 16pts on back 6 from Lisa Ryley 16pts.

An Autumn Eclectic was held from October 14- December 16: First, Maxine Hird 38 gross – 5.25 = 32.75 nett; second, Lisa Ryley 37 gross – 4.00 = 33.00nett; third, Annie Blackburn 39 gross – 5.75 = 33.25 nett.

On Tuesday, January 6, a nine hole medal: First, Ann Mahenthirlingam 42 – 6 = 36 nett on back 6 from second Vicki Ellison 54 – 18 = 36 nett; third Louise Wilding 42 – 5.5 = 37.5 on back 6 from Pat

Gosling 53 – 15.5 nett = 37.5.

On Tuesday, January 13, nine hole Stableford: First, Louise Wilding 17pts; second, Mel King 16pts; third, Ann Mahenthirlingam 14pts. On Tuesday, January 20, nine hole medal: First, Audrey Harwood 49 gross – 12 = 37 nett; second, Sue Thomas 48 – 10 = 38; third, Ann Mahenthirlingam 46 – 6 = 40 nett.

On Tuesday, January 27, a Texas Scramble was held: First, Louise Wilding, Pat Gosling, Moyra Smith 37 – 6.5 = 30.5 nett; second, Susan Thomas, Frances Stuckey, Vera Hollyman 42 – 7.41 = 34.59; third, Ann Mahenthirlingam, Christine Nelms, Sian Smith 42 – 5.75 = 36.25.

All the ladies had an enjoyable time playing in the winter sunshine.

RY

John Llewellyn, and under the heading 'Llewellyn Lands 20-1 Winner', reads "Proud Prince, ridden by Welsh champion jockey John Llewellyn, landed a division of the Heygate Gold Cup Open race in commanding style at the North Hereford Hunt Point-To-Point."

*Proud Prince*, a 20-1 outsider, scored by 10 lengths from the favourite *Spartan Scot* and Llewellyn was looking round for non-existent dangers on the run-in.

Owner Gordon Lewis, a near neighbour of Llewellyn, said in the paddock after the race that he was "surprised at the result." Sadly, Gordon died a year or two ago.

*Proud Prince* went on to win the men's open at the Glamorgan at St Hilary that year and Llewellyn also won the members' race there on *Major Gerard*. I recall that the horse should really have been named *Major Gerard* but owing to a typo, the horse ended up with that name! The heading for a press cutting dated April 13, 1981 reads: "Fitz has 25th Win In Style"; And this is what I had to say: "Rose Harry's 15-year-old *Fitz* chalked up his 25th point-to-point success when landing the adjacent event at the Glamorgan Hunt Steeplechases. *Fitz*, who has also won two hunter chases under Rules, finished 22 lengths clear of *Ballydamus*."

*Fitz*, who was owned and trained by the late Mrs Rose Harry at Dinas Powys, was a handsome chestnut gelding who was also ridden during his long and esteemed racing career by John Llewellyn and Mike Williams.

Under the heading 'Another Thomas Winner' dated May 5, 1981, I reported: "Course inspector Jack Thomas saw his *Cottage Chest* land an easy win in the Barry Glazing Restricted Open race at the Pentrych Hunt Steeplechases. *Cottage Chest*, who won by a distance from *Dairibright*, was ridden by Mr Thomas's grandson John Thomas of St Athan. Like his grandfather and father, Jim Thomas, 19-year-old John was the third generation of the Thomas family to have ridden a winner at this meeting."

Jim's grandsons, Tom and Evan David of Llanharan, are now carrying on the great tradition

and between them they have both ridden many winners.

Moving on to May 25, 1981 and 'Rooney Lands Treble', I reported: "Tim Rooney of Bassaleg landed a treble at the Ystrad Hunt Steeplechases at Llantwit Major with *Ernie The Milk*, *Crosstown* and *Just Mac*. Rooney who is challenging for the National Point-To-Point Riders' Championship has equalled the Welsh record of 15 wins in a season set by John Llewellyn last year. Now he is just two wins behind Ian McKie."

Sadly, an injury was to put Tim on the sidelines and his chance of winning the title vanished.

On June 8, 1981, under the heading 'Rooney's Welsh Record', I wrote: "A round trip of 320 miles paid off for Barry farmer Ted Williams when his *Crosstown* landed the men's open race (Division 1) at the Exmoor Foxhounds Hunt Steeplechases.

"*Crosstown*, who was brilliantly ridden by Bassaleg farrier Tim Rooney beat Grand National runner *Sandvillam* by a length, despite making a mistake at the third last fence and losing a shoe.

"*Crosstown*, who was landing a five-timer, was made a 4/6 favourite and Mr Williams said: 'The journey took us five hours but it was all worth while for *Crosstown*'s win has given Rooney a new Welsh record of 16 wins in a season."

There was another Welsh success at the meeting when Cardiff saddler John Ayres took the second division of the women's open with his former hurdler *Majetta Crescent*.

Ridden by Shan Morgan, *Majetta Crescent* running in a ladies' race for the first time was backed from 20-1 to 10-1.

Shan Morgan, who turned down a ride on *Moonello*, who finished fifth, said: "*Majetta Crescent* gave me a wonderful ride. He's some horse."

You can e-mail your point-to-point memories/news to [brianlee4@virginmedia.com](mailto:brianlee4@virginmedia.com) or phone him on 02920736438.



Brian Lee.

## Cottrell Park runners-up in golf awards

**THE oldest golf club in Wales has a new title – with Tenby claiming the award as the Golf Union of Wales Club of the Year.**

by deputy minister for culture, sport and tourism Ken Skates AM. Tenby beat off strong competition from Cottrell Park, Glynhir, Milford Haven and Pyle and Kenfig.

Ryder Cup star Jamie Donaldson was the Golf Union of Wales touring professional of the year; north Wales' Evan Griffiths the amateur player of the year; Pwllheli's Grace Roberts the volunteer of the year; and Gower's Nicola Stroud the Golf Development Wales finance company Future Financials and attended



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# Dinas RFC edge Barry in top-of-the-table clash

**THE eagerly anticipated top of the table clash between two unbeaten sides in Barry RFC and Dinas Powis RFC unfolded in dramatic fashion on a cold Saturday afternoon.**

Barry's preparations were not helped when centre Dave Provis pulled up in the warm-up, so Ashley Adams returned to the starting line-up with Richie O'Sullivan drafted onto the bench from the 2nd XV.

With the slope and wind behind them, Dinas Powis tried to play a high tempo game in an attempt to score first. Barry defended stoutly in their own half, but their cause was further disrupted by flanker Callum Scott going off with an injury after only five minutes.

Dinas utilised their strong runners from the base of the scrum and midfield, and they were to cause the home side problems all afternoon.

Barry did not help themselves with some uncharacteristic errors in defence, and relied heavily on Einar Scott's boot to relieve the pressure.

After turning down several kickable penalty opportunities, the visitors finally accepted one near the posts to open the scoring to take a deserved 3-0 lead.

With halftime looming, the visitors struck a further blow, taking full advantage of Barry being down to 14 men as they took advantage of a series of missed tackles to score in the corner. The conversion was missed to leave the score 8-0 at the interval.

Knowing that they need to take the game to their visitors, Barry finally awoke from their slumber and utilised their own strong runners, with Luke O'Sullivan, Alyn Evans and captain

Martin Tanner to the fore.

The pressure finally told when Scott reduced the deficit with a well-struck penalty following a Dinas indiscretion in the contact area.

Sensing a momentum swing, and aided by a flurry of yellow cards for both sides, Barry poured forward looking for the equalising score.

A neat exchange of passes saw Ashley Adams seemingly ground the ball underneath the posts, but the referee had other ideas and instead awarded a five-metre scrum.

Barry chased for the five-pointer instead of going for goal, but they lacked real penetration against a resolute Dinas defence and that, combined with the home side losing crucial line-outs in opposition territory, meant that the chance was gone.

Barry would have one more opportunity to score when good play in midfield involving Scott and Perry sent Brad White clear, but a last-ditch ankle tap foiled his assault to the line.

Instead the away side controlled the game perfectly with good tactical kicking and ball recycling, and scored a drop-goal from in front of the posts to seal an 11-3 victory.

The 1st XV will hope to bounce back this weekend with a trip to Caerau Ely, while the 2nd XV host Llandaff and the 3rd XV are home to Fairwater.

*Team: T Scott; Adams, Perry, White, Ryan; E Scott, Lee; Evans, Vidal, Hollister; Tanner ©, H Jones; Goodfellow, C Scott, L O'Sullivan. Replacements: Sullivan, Giddings, Poole, not used; Mephram, R O'Sullivan. Man of the match: L O'Sullivan.*

CK

## PROMISING START TO SEASON FOR LOCAL NETBALL CLUB



The Westend netballers are in full flow this season.

**WESTEND 1** netball team has started well in the Cardiff & District League, ending the first half of the season in fourth position.

Westend 2 started well but lost a couple of players due to injuries and are now hoping that in the second part of the season, they will come back fighting.

Westend netball team would like to thank United Carpets and Beds, Cardiff, for sponsoring them this season.

## Hockey team are sunk by late goal

**WITH the 2nd XI on a week off, Penarth Hockey Club's focus fell on its senior team as they welcomed divisional frontrunners Hereford for the return of a fixture they'd rather forget.**

Having gone down to a heavy defeat at Hereford Racecourse earlier in the season, Penarth welcomed their promotion-contending opposition to a very cold Barry Sports Centre with a degree of trepidation, but also determined to salvage a modicum of pride.

Both teams started the game well, with a very good standard of hockey being played until a defensive lapse allowed Hereford to open the scoring. The setback, however, only served to spur Penarth to greater effort and they really got into the game, moving the ball well throughout the pitch and eventually winning the first penalty corner of the game.

Unfortunately for the Vale side, lady luck wasn't altogether impressed with their endeavours and, when the corner broke down, Hereford wasted little time in going the length of the field to double their lead.

The 2-0 scoreline remained through to the halftime interval, but Penarth were by no means out of the game and started the second period strongly. Their continued pressure finally took its toll on the visitors and led to another penalty corner thanks to some fine stick work from Phil Lane.

This time, the corner routine worked, with Chris Baker receiving a short feed before forcing the Hereford keeper into a sharp save. Although the initial effort came to nought, Tom Haran followed in to convert

the rebound into the bottom corner.

Buoyed by pulling a goal back, Penarth put Hereford under pressure straight from the restart, and won the ball back just outside the visitors' 25.

Passing the ball well, the Vale side eventually found Lane in space, and the veteran striker smashed the ball past the helpless keeper to bring the sides level.

Despite their best efforts, however, Penarth could not add a third goal, and paid for their efforts when Hereford capitalised on a lapse in defensive concentration to retake the lead with five minutes to go.

The defeat drops Penarth to eighth in the De Cymru & The Marches 1 standings, making this weekend's trip to bottom side Cheltenham something of a must-win game.

Having taken a week off due to the odd number of teams in De Cymru 2, Penarth's 2nd XI will return to action with games on both Saturday and Sunday as they face co-leaders Gwent 'A' in Barry and follow that up with a re-arranged trip to face a Whitchurch 'E' side currently one place and one point ahead of them in the De Cymru table.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. Training takes place on the artificial turf at Barry Sport Centre every Wednesday, with the juniors in action between 6-7pm and seniors between 7-8pm.

Further information can be obtained from club secretary Dave Stevens via d\_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk.

CL

## Goalless draw for Dinas Powys FC

**THE Dinas Powys players had a point to prove against Penrhwiwceiber Rangers after the very poor performance of the week before.**

The club has been reshaped this year using as many local players as possible and building with youth. On Saturday, the villagers went about the match showing a desire and passion to play for the badge, which is something that has been lacking in recent matches.

In the opening 15 minutes Ben Ahmum managed to fire wide on two occasions - this sent out a warning that the home side were going to play on the front foot.

Moments later, young winger Luke Swain beat his man to fire in a low cross that Carlos Indjai just failed to get to.

As the home side pushed on they were awarded a penalty after Ahmum was brought down. Nicky Bruce, the talented full back,

having scored his last two from the spot, was unlucky as the keeper pulled off the save to force it wide.

In the opening half the match was very evenly balanced with the visitors looking very threatening from set plays. New signing Connor Caton dealt with these crosses very well, winning countless headers.

At the break, Dinas were forced to make changes, losing the entertaining Swain through a nasty knock to the ankle. Joe Briscoe slotted in at full back and Nicky Bruce pushed forward.

The home side really had a go and threw bodies forward and created a number of good chances, but the quality of the final ball was missing.

Sam Johnson had a golden chance to win the match in the final 10 minutes but he failed to get a good connection

with his head.

Using Atif Bashir as the target man allowed Dinas to play a higher line, as the experienced player held the ball well, playing in the young Dinas players.

The defence were very strong as Caton led by example and Marr, Bloxham and Briscoe all followed his passion to win the ball, keeping a clean sheet and giving Curtin an easy 45 minutes.

James and Ahmum in the middle again showed touches and awareness as they both covered every blade of grass.

This was a very pleasing display from the youngest Dinas team for many a year, well done lads.

The club would like to wish James Marr all the best on his travels to south America.

**Dinas Powys ladies travelled up the M4 to Newport in a game where they were keen to put the record straight.**

The conditions of the playing surface were not conducive for their

passing game, and with this in mind they opted for a long ball style and created numerous chances that they failed to put away.

Newport had two attacks within the opening eight minutes and scored with both chances. As the half went on chances fell to Murray, Phillips, Beare and a simple chance for Howells. Eventually Howells converted her chance with a nice neat finish.

The second half was a carbon copy of the first with the visitors applying the pressure but failing to convert the chances. Ellen Samelius came on for Howells and should have had a hat-trick inside 10 minutes but fluffed her lines.

The breakthrough came too late as Phillips fired home from close range to earn a point, but this was seen as two points dropped rather than three points gained from the Dinas Ladies.

LS

## Barry and District men's skittle league

### DIVISION 1:

Bunker Boys (A.Jeynes, L.Evens 30) 293, Park Rangers (S.Dite 30) 256; Colcot Boys (D.Sullivan 28) 274, Park Lads (D.Baker, G.Jones 28) 285; Ex-Servicemen (T.Cacia 28) 255, 49's (M.Gould, K.Yarr 25) 262; Mighty Dockers (P.Burroughs 28) 272, Colcot Boys (D.James 28) 273; The Hairy Lemons (S.Gully, S.Linney, J.Bonham 24) 242, Barry Park 'B' (B.Hopkins 28) 243.

**Division 2:** BP Breakaways (J.Rees, J.Mills 30) 254, Witchill Poachers (G.Davies 29) 271; Abercree (R.Meares 21) 296, Posties (B.Usher 28) 281; Buffs Exiles (A.Boucheron 27)

26, The Royalists (G.Davies 28) 246; Road Runners (R.Peterson 26) 249, Willie Wombles (P.Jefferies 26) 249; Tynewydd Lads (S.Sluman 29) 276, Barry Social (P.Thomas 33) 270.

**Division 3:** Billy Bluebirds (R.Ferguson 29) 265, C.U.D. (G.Sheppard 29) 252; Castle Boys (M.Bond 29) 224, The Alternatives (I.Howells 25) 362; Commanchies '2' (A.Germon, J.Gregg 28) 275, Cannon Balls (G.Curry 36) 300; KP Monkeynuts (K.Payne 32) 303, 'H' Bells (T.Mullins 33) 309; The Alternative (M.Antond 29) 287, Billy Bluebirds (D.Watkins 33) 271.

HR

## A case of lucky 13 for Sully Sports

**WITHOUT a game for eight weeks, Sully Sports took on Llanrumney's 13 players on this sunny but cold day.**

Sully took a while to settle into the game and you could see how rusty they were. This was always going to be a tough game but Sully soon found their feet and started to run the game plan.

All players wanted to get their hands on the ball, but patience and continuity was the call from the sidelines. Barnstorming runs from all and dancing feet from Peter Brown soon led to a try being scored.

Dai Harris was controlling the plays and ensuring the pressure was kept on and the defence stayed strong.

That said, Llanrumney had come to play a game and that they did, with both sides ensuring the tempo was kept high.

The second half started much as the first with both sides throwing the ball around and trying to gain the upper hand by any means, with both sides scoring some

well-worked tries.

It has been rumoured that Peter Brown has been taking tips from Dai Harris as his dancing skills and spatial awareness was second to none, ensuring another score, while Jake Williams made sure the backs had some of the play and kept Sully on the front foot.

So, after a long lay off Sully Sports got back on the pitch and kept their league dreams alive, final score 61-10. Thank you to Llanrumney for honouring this fixture with 13 players and supporters, they stuck at the task in hand and gave us a run for our money.

This week we face

Cardiff Saracens.

*Squad: Jody Velda, Jamie Griffiths, Sam Bowditch, Ben Such, Ross Eason, Alex Suchnik, Peter Brown, Gareth Foxall, Dean Russell, Harry Moyle, Curtis Miller, John Thomas, Jon Blake, Rhys Manford, Dai Harris, Barrie Phillips, Jake Williams, Scott Lewis, Lee Walters, Dave Weston, Damion Huggins, Matt Phillips.*

Training is every Tuesday and Thursday starting at 6pm - anyone looking to start playing feel free to come along or contact Gareth Ivory via the club website.

GI

## Barrivale results

**LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for January 27 (this event was a charity sims heat to raise funds for the Ebola crisis):**

1st Peter Millar & Mick Green 68.07%; 2nd Jane Brook & Mike Close 60.76%; 3rd Celia & Huw Thomas 58.75%. Peter Millar and Mick Green also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required.

If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

DR





# SIX NATIONS RUGBY

FIRST UP, ENGLAND!



## THE WELSH SQUAD GET SET FOR A MOMENTOUS CAMPAIGN



*The train standing at Cardiff station on February 6 will be the 20.05, terminating in Twickenham at 20.00 on September 26*

**I**T'S the one rugby supporters on both sides of the Severn most look forward to as winter starts to loosen its grip – Wales versus England in the Six Nations – but the 126th clash between these two arch rivals, at the bizarre time of 8.05pm in Cardiff tomorrow night, has more than national pride at stake.

For this just happens to be Rugby World Cup year and the two are drawn to meet in Pool D of the global knockout tournament at Twickenham on September 26 – which could see one of them make an unwelcome early exit.

Both will aim to use the Millennium Stadium face-off, not only to launch their bid for the coveted Six Nations title, but also to implant early doubts in the minds of their opponents – and complete a morale-boosting psychological 'double' long before the RWC tournament kicks off.

Both sides also know full well the scale of the challenge facing them. After all, in a seesaw 125 years since February 19, 1881 (when England defeated a cobbled together Welsh XV 30-0), the Dragon has triumphed 56 times and amassed a total of 1,450 points; while the Rose has blossomed 57 times, and totalled 1,640 points – with 12 matches drawn.

After the initial setback, the early years were dominated by Wales' first golden era, and subsequently the '70s 'super side' reigned supreme, when Doctor JPR (he of the headband, sideburns and rolled down socks!) was the scourge of Twickenham).

Things began to take an ominous turn in the '80s, and the Welsh Dark Ages of the '90s finally saw the pendulum swing to all-powerful England, who won 16 games to Wales' two between 1990-2004. The stranglehold was briefly broken with the first Welsh Grand Slam of the modern era in 2005 under Mike Ruddock, who was

succeeded by Gareth Jenkins – which two years later, saw a mix-and-match Welsh team blown apart (62-5) at Twickenham, just weeks before setting off to the Rugby World Cup in France.

There they suffered the even more public ignominy of an early flight home after being unwisely sucked into a Barbarians-like try fest by so-called international minnows, Fiji.

It saw the peremptory dismissal of Jenkins and his replacement by current coach, Kiwi Warren Gatland, who made an immediate impact with a shock win (26-19) at fortress Twickenham, launching the first of two more Grand Slams – in 2008 and 2012.

He and his coaching team have since cemented the rebirth of Welsh rugby, albeit in a major shift from traditional, off-the-cuff Welsh play to the more hard-nosed, confrontational style favoured in this ruthlessly professional era.

In boxing terms, it is more akin to Rocky Marciano than stylish Joe Erskine!

This was shown to devastating effect in the corresponding fixture two years ago, when high-flying England came to Cardiff hunting a Grand Slam and were crushed 30-3, amid unprecedented scenes in a white-hot Millennium Stadium, Wales wrestling the championship from their stunned grasp.

The boot was on the other foot in this topsy-turvy tale of two cities at Twickenham last year, when the men in white had their revenge in a 29-18 victory that this time deprived Wales of the title!

On Wednesday, canny Gatland completely wrong-footed the English camp (and the entire sporting media) with a neat sidestep more reminiscent of the great Phil Bennett himself than an ex member of the front row union, by suddenly announcing his team

sheet on Monday, a full 48 hours earlier than expected.

Shrugging off any suggestion that he was playing one of his famous mind games, he merely said: "We decided to name the team early to give the players the best possible chance of preparation."

Explaining why he had reverted to his tried and tested line-up by recalling 'exiles' George North and Richard Hibbard, he admitted: "It was a tough call on the two changes we have made to the side that beat South Africa 12-6 in the autumn (the in-form Scarlets' full back, Liam Williams and Ospreys hooker Scott Baldwin) but it's good to have these and other tough selection decisions and it's a strong position to be in."

"We are excited about kicking off on Friday against a strong England side in front of a packed Millennium Stadium," he added without a hint of irony, given that the injury-hit England camp are shorn of a dozen front rank players, while for once Wales will be fielding his preferred line-up.

Thus the scene appears to be set for a repeat of that memorable 2013 triumph, with the Welsh shock troops again poised to overwhelm their depleted rivals from over the border with another powerhouse display – and surmount the first hurdle to a possible fourth Grand Slam, which would set them up very nicely to pursue Gatland's fixed goal – and rugby's 'holy grail' – the Webb Ellis Cup.

A heady scenario, but the wily campaigner knows only too well that it would be foolish to underestimate the formidable strength in depth of opponents, who, despite an alarming injury list that would decimate Wales were the situation reversed, are still capable of overcoming the odds against

them. Always provided, of course, they can overcome the paralysing effect of a mind-numbing, hostile Millennium Stadium in full voice, which undid them two years ago.

In the circumstances, how the two teams have prepared, for what both accept is an encounter of huge psychological importance, could be crucial to the outcome.

Curiously, and with one eye on the World Cup campaign, the Welsh coaches appear to have needed to concentrate on improving the players' physical fitness – which in a professional age should surely be taken as read?

That this is deemed necessary, puts a question mark over the four professional Regions, in particular, and may go some way to explaining their continued lack of success at the highest levels in Europe.

The English, on the other hand, though without many of their first choice players, have no such concerns, for the replacements come buoyant and match-hardened from more successful battles in Europe.

Even so, Wales know they will never have a better opportunity to down the old enemy. All in all, it promises to be another enthralling occasion for the Millennium Stadium faithful!

### WALES TEAM

Leigh Halfpenny (Toulon); Alex Cuthbert (Blues), Jonathan Davies (ASM Clermont Auvergne), Jamie Roberts (Racing Metro), George North (Northampton Saints); Dan Biggar (Ospreys), Rhys Webb (Ospreys); Gethin Jenkins (Blues), Richard Hibbard (Gloucester), Samson Lee (Scarlets), Jake Ball (Scarlets), Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys), Sam Warburton (Blues, Capt), Dan Lydiate (Ospreys), Taulupe Faleatu (Dragons).

REPLACEMENTS: Scott Baldwin (Ospreys), Paul James (Bath Rugby), Aaron Jarvis (Ospreys), Luke Charteris (Racing Metro), Justin Tipuric (Ospreys), Mike Phillips (Racing Metro), Rhys Priestland (Scarlets), Liam Williams (Scarlets).

## BACK PAGE COMMENT

by Don John